



U.S. to Keep East at Bay Over NATO Membership

By Michael R. Gordon
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The United States plans to stick to a go-slow approach on expanding NATO membership to East European countries despite sharp divisions among American officials and protests from East European leaders, administration officials say.

Little more than a week before a NATO summit meeting in Brussels, all sides acknowledge that the decision whether to let Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and other nations into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is one of the most important in the history of the alliance.

The issue has become even more pressing for East European governments in recent weeks as their fears of resurgent Russian nationalism have been heightened by Vladimir V. Zhirinovsky's aggressive statements and his party's success in the Russian elections on Dec. 12.

The prevailing view in Washington, reaffirmed since the Russian vote, is that the West should move slowly to avoid aggravating Moscow's traditional fears of encirclement and strengthening Russians opposed to reform.

On the other side are administration officials who believe that democratic gains in Eastern Europe must be consolidated and that those countries must be protected from past predators by inclusion in the alliance.

Providing new details about the debate that embroiled the Clinton administration, officials said that Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher had initially favored expanding NATO's membership to the East.

But he was persuaded to reverse course after the intervention of Strobe Talbott, the administration-turned-policymaker who was named Mr. Christopher's deputy last week.

On the weekend before a critical cabinet-level meeting in October, Mr. Talbott, who has been ambassador-at-large to the former Soviet republics, typed a memo on his home computer arguing against NATO expansion and sent it to Mr. Christopher.

Within days, Mr. Christopher and Defense Secretary Les Aspin were flying to Europe to explain the change of plan.

Under the go-slow approach, which will be formally presented at the summit meeting on Jan. 10 and 11, the United States and its allies will endorse the principle that NATO's membership should eventually be enlarged.

But NATO will not issue recommendations for admitting new members. Instead, East European countries and former Soviet republics are being invited to take part in a program of

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Israelis blocking roads on Sunday to protest against plans to isolate their settlement within the Palestinian-controlled Jericho area as the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks continue.

U.S. Envoy Hails China's Progress on Rights

By Patrick E. Tyler
New York Times Service

BEIJING — Despite what he calls continuing abuses of human rights in China, the U.S. ambassador here argues that Beijing has made "dramatic" progress in improving the lives of its citizens and that this record should be taken into account when policy toward China is reviewed next year.

According to the ambassador, J. Stapleton Roy, the setbacks in human rights represented by the Tiananmen Square crackdown in 1989 and the wave of repression that followed are being steadily reversed, and the Commu-

nist Party has loosened its control over many aspects of Chinese life.

His comments in an interview came in advance of a congressional review this month of China's record on human rights. Before July, President Bill Clinton must decide whether China has made "overall, significant progress" in human rights and thus deserves to have its beneficial trade status renewed.

Mr. Roy, 38, a career diplomat who is scheduled to complete his tour in Beijing next summer, said he could not predict whether China would satisfy the standard of "overall, significant progress."

"I can't answer those questions, because the administration is going to have to define what it views as significant progress," he said.

He acknowledged that there had been important human rights "setbacks" in 1993, including arrests and harsh treatment of political and religious dissidents. But he said the economic and technological revolution promoted by Deng Xiaoping since 1978 had stripped away much of the ideological prison in which the Chinese had lived for three decades.

In an executive order in May, Mr. Clinton said there were seven key areas in which

China had to make "overall, significant progress" before he could renew its trade privileges in July 1994. Among the areas are "releasing and providing an acceptable accounting for Chinese citizens imprisoned or detained for the nonviolent expression of their political and religious beliefs."

Mr. Roy said human-rights abuses were likely to persist for the foreseeable future under the Communist Party and the security apparatus that keeps it in power.

But in nearly two hours of discussion, he argued that the overall economic and social

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5 Southern Mexico Towns Seized by Armed Peasants

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico — Thousands of armed Indian peasants, calling themselves the Zapatista Army of National Liberation, seized five towns in southern Mexico on Saturday and Sunday, fighting government troops to protest what they said was genocide. As many as a dozen soldiers and policemen and more than 20 Indians were killed.

Late Sunday, the rebels had withdrawn from this city of 80,000 after holding it for 24 hours. The group was still occupying Ocosingo, Altamirano, Las Margaritas and Chanal, and the rebels were threatening to march on Tuxtla Gutiérrez, the capital of Chiapas State, near the border with Guatemala.

In a communiqué, the peasants said they had declared war on the government: "The war we are declaring is a last, but just measure. The dictators have been applying a nondeclared genocidal war against our people for many years."

A large group of peasants occupying San Cristobal left the city in trucks early Sunday morning. Before leaving, the peasants painted slogans on walls saying the military base at Rancho Nuevo was one of their destinations. Fighting was later reported near the base.

Witnesses said the peasants held a meeting in the central plaza Saturday night attended by hundreds of cheering people. The rebels reportedly told the crowd that they were fighting for the poor and indigenous peoples of Mexico.

The peasants sacked the town hall here and looted a government store. The streets around the tree-shaded central plaza were littered with paper and other items thrown out of the town hall, where a fire could be seen smoldering.

San Cristobal's municipal secretary, Sergio Alberto Pastrana, said the rebels had also taken over the police headquarters, where about 45 men on duty offered no resistance.

"They believe they are the strongest, and they came to demonstrate that," he said. "They showed the force they have."

In Ocosingo, a town of 30,000, El Tiempo newspaper said the rebels had set fire to the town hall and taken about 30 policemen hostage after four policemen were killed.

The insurgents destroyed three bridges leading into the town, according to witnesses. The rebels claimed to have 5,000 followers in Ocosingo.

A man reached by telephone in Ocosingo said that there were still 2,000 to 3,000 rebels

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Armed peasants in the Mexican town of San Cristobal after they took over that town and four others in an anti-government uprising.

Kiosk

Weather Deaths At 10 in France

LAON, France (AP) — A man taking his dogs for a walk drowned Sunday in the Oise River, one of several flooded rivers in France.

The drowning in Gruyére, 175 kilometers north of Paris, brought the number of weather-related deaths from flooding and from avalanches in the Alps in the last week to at least 10.

The body of Jean-Claude Debros, 51, was found in a tangle of branches by a helicopter crew sent out after his two Labrador retrievers returned home.

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Books

Skin Color, a Hot Option for Today's Designing Parents

By Eugene Robinson
New York Times Service

"The child is going to be of mixed race, whatever we do," Dr. Brinsden said. "Whether it is more black or more white is irrelevant."

His comments came amid reports that a clinic in Italy had enabled a black woman to give birth to a white baby about six months ago. According to the press reports, the woman, who was infertile because of a tumor, and was married to a white man, asked for an egg from a white donor so her child could escape racial discrimination.

In the last week, questions have been raised about the ages at which some women are undergoing fertilized egg implantations. A 59-year-old British woman, after treatment by Italian doctors, gave birth to twins over Christmas. In Italy, according

to press reports, a 62-year-old woman is now pregnant after implantation of a fertilized egg.

This string of disclosures has prompted soul-searching among British medical authorities and responses from politicians ranging from anger to bafflement.

Dame Jill Knight, who heads a health committee in Parliament, said that to allow a couple to choose the ethnic identity of their child was "plain and unvarnished genetic engineering, and as such must be unacceptable."

But David Blunkett, health spokesman for the opposition Labor Party, was more measured in his response, saying that

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By Molly O'Neill
New York Times Service

ers to nutrition experts and health-club executives.

Moreover, this gain is most evident among the affluent, well-educated population that has been at the core of the fitness craze.

This is bountiful evidence. A national survey of 2,073 adults has found that in the last two years people chose high-fat snacks more often than lean ones. Chip consumption rose by 6 percent, and popcorn dropped by 3 percent.

In 1991, respondents in a similar survey reported an average weight loss of 10 pounds

(4.5 kilograms); in 1993, they reported an average gain of 2.1 pounds.

For the first time in 15 years, John C. Norcross, a professor of psychology at the University of Scranton who studies New Year's resolutions, found that neither losing weight nor stopping smoking was the No. 1 New Year's resolution this year. Instead, people are most concerned with managing their personal finances better.

"I am hearing a lot of people give themselves permission not to be perfect," Professor Norcross said.

Businesses that stand to profit from a less ascetic society tend to read these signs as a backlash against the last decade's relentless beating of the good-health drum.

Representatives of the dairy, beef, pork, sugar, snack-food, fast-food and tobacco industries, for instance, view the recent surveys, as well as their own increasing sales, with enthusiasm. "People are starting to loosen up," said Max Green, executive secretary of the Wine and Spirits Guild of America, a trade group in Minneapolis. "The public is no longer overwhelmed by health concerns."

Others, particularly those with a vested interest in health-conscious living, tend to interpret the surveys less as a backlash than as blips in an ever-improving picture of public health.

"There's been a dramatic change toward healthier habits over the last decade," said Mark Bricklin, the executive editor of Prevention magazine. "Major health changes don't happen in a straight line." Manufacturers of low-fat food products and fitness

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For Americans, It's Good-Bye to Bran Muffins and Hello to Chips

By Molly O'Neill
New York Times Service

Newsstand Prices

Andorra	9.00 FF	Luxembourg	69.11 FF
Applles	11.20 FF	Morocco	12.00 FF
Cameroon	700 CFA	Qatar	8.00 Rials
Egypt	1,500 CFA	Reykjavik	20.00 FF
France	9.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	3.00 R.
Gabon	480 CFA	Singapore	480 CFA
Greece	300 DR	Tunisia	100 PTAS
Ivory Coast	550 CFA	Turkey	12.00 DR
Jordan	7.10 D.L.	U.A.E.	8.50 Dirhams
Lebanon	US\$1.50	U.S. Mil.	ED\$1.50

Q&A: Contrarian's View of U.S. Economic Recovery

A. Gary Shilling, who runs an economic consultancy and investment firm in Springfield, New Jersey, is one of America's more celebrated bears. With signals set fair for the U.S. economy, he discussed his contrarian views with Lawrence Mallin of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. What is different about this recovery from all other postwar recoveries?

A. It is taking place in the midst of a decade-long correction from the 1980s when tremendous debts piled up in every sector and indeed throughout the world, there was excess hiring here and abroad, and a massive real estate boom which left tremendous amounts of excess capacity. Unwinding those excesses is a drag on the whole business cycle, and on top of that we have the unwinding of defense spending and exports pouring out of the newly industrialized countries.

All of this is giving us a world of slack

demand and excess supply—a deflationary world which is very different from the upswing of this 50- or 60-year cycle back in the 1960s.

Q. What cycle?

A. After World War II, you had a strong upward phase with new technology and the huge rush to the suburbs with a lot of housing and road-building, consumer electronics and appliances.

In the '70s things started to get overdone, and we had an inventory cycle where everybody thought we'd have shortages forever and stocked up on commodities and goods to buy before prices went higher. Everybody ended up with far too much, which led to a sharp recession of the type you hadn't seen since the end of World War I.

In Phase 3, which was the 1980s, the economy really was starting to stir but nobody noticed it because everybody was out enjoying the greed and glitz and borrowing and spending and just having a wild party like the 1920s.

What inevitably follows is the correction, the unwinding phase, and you can vary date that from the 1987 stock market crash, or in the spring of 1989 when the U.S. economy essentially ceased to grow. That started a little later in Europe and Japan, and the whole world now is basically in the same boat. The precedent for this is not in anybody's database. There are no figures going back to the '20s and '30s—so they just don't exist as far as most economists are concerned.

Q. Let's go forward to the shortest of the short term. We've had a good Christmas. What's your outlook for the New Year?

A. We're still in a stop-go economy. The strength in the last three quarters has been fueled by the consumer, who has accounted for more than 100 percent of the growth in gross domestic product. That's fine if the consumer has the where-

withal to do it, but spending is growing more rapidly than income.

Furthermore, there's been this mad rush to go out and buy houses because people think mortgage rates are going to go up. That borrows from the future—it's in effect pre-spending, and it includes all the follow-on effects in terms of home appliances and furniture. In the upper income brackets, people have had their heads in the sand about tax increases, which are retrospective to the start of 1993 for incomes over \$150,000. If those people take only half their tax payments out of spending and the rest out of savings, that will still cut back the overall growth of spending by 25 percent in 1994.

Q. But the new taxes are designed to have the rich keep their money in their business and invest it for the future.

A. What people are doing is getting rid of bodies, not to expand capacity. You may put a computer, but that's to cut costs; it yields profits, not jobs. That's a very different form of productiv-

ity growth from the postwar period when we put in new machinery and a lot of people's jobs were upgraded.

Q. What are the implications for the rest of the world?

A. We are not providing an engine to help the world out of the morass, but they're not helping it either; because the rest of the industrialized world is pretty much in the same boat. Some have been

gaining because of the tremendous burst of growth in China, but China is an enigma. It has a stop-go economic policy, it's hard to see who is in charge, and it has inflation problems. We're bullish on China in the long run, but it certainly is stretching it to say they're going to continue this kind of growth and therefore will continue to help their neighboring countries boom. And as they gain market share in the industrialized countries and unemployment lingers, we're going to see protectionist pressures to limit imports.

WORLD BRIEFS

Scores Dead in Fighting in Kabul

KABUL (Reuters) — Fierce factional battles raged for the second day in the Afghan capital on Sunday, killing more than 70 people and wounded around 100, officials said.

President Burhanuddin Rabbani's spokesman said the figures were a conservative estimate of the casualties in the fighting that erupted between Mr. Rabbani's forces and fighters led by General Abdin Rashid Doesum at dawn on New Year's Day. The toll was likely to be much higher because the intensity of rocket and artillery fire was making it difficult for families to take their dead and seriously wounded to hospitals. The fighting was the heaviest for six months.

Presidential jets carried out bombing raids on the ancient Bala Hisar fort to the south of the city, one of the main bases of General Doesum's fighters. Mr. Rabbani issued an appeal to other parties in the fractious coalition Islamic government to join forces with him.

Kohl Cites Bleak Security Situation

BONN (Reuters) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl said in an interview broadcast on Sunday that the Balkan conflicts and the rise of extreme nationalism in Russia showed the need for Germany to maintain a capable defense.

"Any one who takes a good look around in the world knows that the security situation has not improved," Mr. Kohl told a Berlin radio station.

He acknowledged that the armed forces would have to curb spending as part of efforts to curb a state budget deficit. But he dismissed opposition calls for deep cuts in defense spending as stupid, according to a summary of the interview. "The armed forces will get what they need,"

UN Convoys Unimpeded in Bosnia

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP) — Fourteen United Nations relief convoys had surprisingly smooth runs Sunday as they delivered cargoes to hungry and cold residents of Bosnia, UN officials said. The missions ended a two-day New Year's break for UN relief personnel. Earlier aid deliveries have been blocked or delayed by bureaucracy and harassment, and some have come under gunfire.

Five convoys reached Serb-held towns in eastern Bosnia, while two other lines of trucks reached the eastern Muslim and the western Croatian parts of the southwestern city of Mostar, said Ken Harvey, warehouse manager in Metkovic, southern Croatia, for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Two other convoys for Sarajevo and the central Bosnian town of Zenica were heading to Tomislavgrad, west of Mostar, where they were to spend the night. Five convoys that left Belgrade earlier in the day were heading toward Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia.

7 More Killed in Algerian Violence

ALGIERS (AP) — Gunmen killed seven civilians in separate incidents in an upsurge of violence Friday and Saturday, security service officials said Sunday. At the same time, several schools and colleges hit by arson attacks, the sources said.

Armed groups hit educational establishments across the country, including three colleges and two schools in Blida, a college and a grammar school in Oum El-Bouaghi, a grammar school in Chlef and a college in Ain Defla. The police said about 60 trucks, buses and government vehicles were also the subject of arson attacks.

An Algiers newspaper, *Al Moudjahid*, reported Sunday that 780 Muslim fundamentalists were still being detained in two desert detention centers.

Pakistan and India Discuss Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (Reuters) — Pakistan said talks with India on the issue of disputed Kashmir began Sunday on a serious note as Islamabad called on New Delhi to end what it calls repression in the Indian-ruled part of the state.

Western diplomats said they expected scant progress in the talks on Sunday and Monday that end an 18-month hiatus in negotiations between the two old enemies, and which for the first time tackle head on the dispute over divided Kashmir.

"The talks have started on a note of seriousness," a Foreign Ministry statement said after the first of four sessions on Sunday morning between the top diplomats of the two countries.

Cambodians Battle Khmer Rouge

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand (AP) — Cambodian government and Khmer Rouge forces battled throughout the day Sunday, south of the border town of Poipet, exchanging artillery and mortar fire, Thai army officials said.

The fighting appeared to be increasing in intensity, and both sides were bringing up fresh forces, the officials said, adding that they believed there were casualties on both sides. It was the third consecutive day of clashes in the area south of the Cambodian border crossroads of Poipet as Phnom Penh reportedly prepared a major offensive against the Khmer Rouge for the coming week.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Channel Tunnel Fare Reportedly Set

LONDON (AP) — The round-trip fare for taking a car through the English Channel tunnel will range from £160 to £260, The Sunday Times said.

From May to June and October to December a standard round-trip ticket between the tunnel terminals in Calais, France, and Folkestone, England, will sell for about £160 (\$240), rising to £260 during high season, the newspaper said. The price will not vary according to the number of passengers in the car. The Sunday Times did not cite the source of its information.

The fares would make the price of using the Channel tunnel only slightly more expensive than crossing by ferry. The tunnel is due to open to passenger service on May 8.

Britain's crown jewels are to be moved from their nuclear-proof bunker in the Tower of London to a new home above ground. The jewels are being transferred because the bunker is too small to cope with the number of visitors, a Tower of London spokesman said. The new home will be a glass air-conditioned display in the Tower's Waterloo Barracks complete with a moving walkway to prevent logjams.

Switzerland's internal boundaries have been changed, with the district of Laufen being transferred out of the Bern canton and into the German-speaking half-canton of Basel, officials said. The change means that the Bern canton now has no border with France.

A strike by employees of the Athens private bus system entered its 19th day Sunday with only 650 buses out of 1,700 on city streets, backed up by 400 military buses. Strikers said they would continue their industrial action as long as the government refused to pay compensation for renationalizing Athens transports.

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

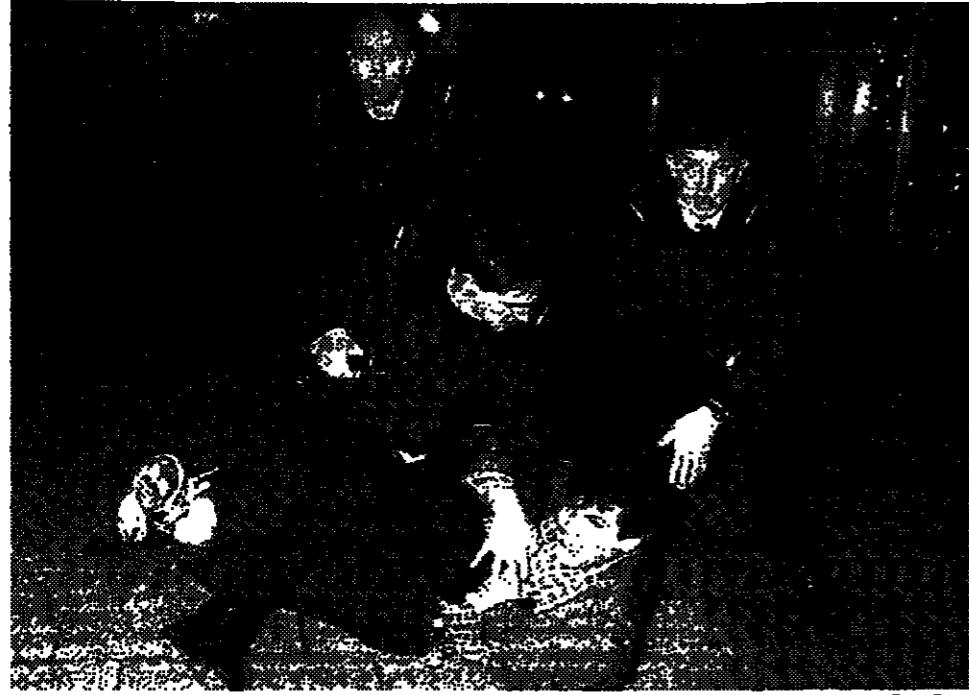
MONDAY: Australia, Botswana, Britain, Burkina Faso, Canada, Gibraltar, Guatemala, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Malawi, New Zealand, Russia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Taiwan, Thailand.

TUESDAY: Burma, New Zealand, Taiwan, Zaire.

WEDNESDAY: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Finland, Greece, Iraq, Italy, Liechtenstein, Puerto Rico, Spain, Sweden, Uruguay, Vatican City.

FRIDAY: Belarus, Ethiopia, Ukraine.

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters.



BRUSSELS CLASH — Belgian policemen struggling with a Turkish demonstrator, part of a crowd protesting a meeting of members of the Kurdish Workers' Party who had marched from Cologne.

Bonn Gets Fewer Ethnic Germans

At 218,888, Influx From East in '93 Appears to Stabilize

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BONN — Germany accepted 218,888 ethnic Germans from the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in 1993, a slight drop from the 1992 figure of 230,563, the interior ministry said Sunday.

As in previous years, most immigrants came from the former Soviet Union, the ministry said.

Bonn's 1949 constitution grants citizenship to any ethnic German in Eastern Europe who can prove that he suffered directly or indirectly from World War II because of his German roots.

In 1990, the year of German unification, 400,000 ethnic Germans mostly from the Soviet Union, Poland and Romania, swamped hastily established camps.

Bonn stemmed the flow by seeking to improve conditions for eth-

Paris Tries to Quell Critics Of Its Release of Iranians

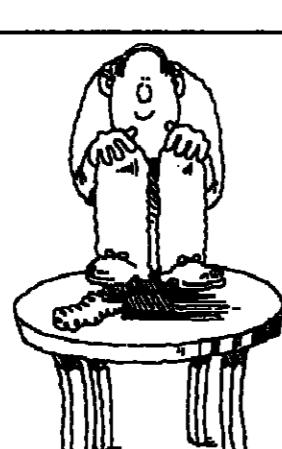
The Associated Press

PARIS — A French minister said Sunday that Switzerland "understands" France's repatriation of two Iranians wanted in the assassination of an Iranian opposition figure near Geneva.

Alain Lamassoure, France's minister for European affairs, repeated on the Sunday television news program "Hour of Truth" government assertions that the expulsions were "in the national interest."

We have other Iranians in French prisons who are going to be submitted to French justice," Mr. Lamassoure said. "We don't have

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When it's this easy calling home, it's tough getting Tom off the phone.

U.S. Warns of Lapses in Air Control

By Martin Tolchin
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — An increasing number of aircraft are flying too close to other planes because of errors made by air traffic controllers, the Federal Aviation Administration has reported.

The required aircraft separation distances were breached 757 times in the 12-month period that ended last October, the agency found, a 5 percent increase in such incidents, called "operational errors," compared with 720 in the preceding 12 months.

"Operational errors" is the FAA's term for mistakes made by air traffic controllers who fail to keep aircraft separated by the required distance, which is, on average, three miles laterally or 1,000 feet vertically; sometimes both buffers are required and sometimes the separation distances are larger.

Some operational errors have been "relatively close," said Bill Jeffers, the FAA's deputy associate administrator for air traffic control. Dangerously close encounters are called near-collisions.

The controllers attribute the increase in such errors to increased air traffic, overburdened airports and overworked controllers. But federal officials say air traffic increased by only 1 percent this year, to about 7 million departures, and they contend that busy airports are adequately staffed by controllers.

Mr. Jeffers attributes the increase to "in-

man error and communications error" on the part of controllers.

Whatever the reason, FAA officials say that there is no cause for alarm. "Just because operational errors may be going up, you can't say that the quality of safety in the system is going down," said Robert Buckhorn, a spokesman for the agency. The number of collisions and near-collisions, he pointed out, has steadily declined.

Fatalities have been attributed to operational errors in the past. Air traffic controllers were held responsible for a February 1991 runway collision between a USAir jetliner at Los Angeles International Airport and a Southwest commuter plane; 46 people were killed.

Two months later, Senator John Heinz of Pennsylvania and six others were killed in a midair collision when the senator's chartered plane collided with a helicopter over a Philadelphia suburb. Air traffic controllers had given permission for the helicopter to fly near the senator's plane to inspect it.

Despite the increase in operational errors, the FAA reports a reduction in the number of near-collisions in the air, to 292 in the 12 months that ended last October. That is down 7 percent from 315 reported for the year ending October 1992; 363 were reported for the year ending October 1991.

Despite the increase in operational errors, the FAA says it has nearly 18,000 air traffic controllers, of whom 12,000 are at the full-performance level, which means that they can handle any job assigned.

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مكتبة المطبعة

STATESIDE / A DOCTOR'S PROBLEMS

Clinton's Outspoken Surgeon General Is Fighting Off the Political Knives

By Isabel Wilkerson

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Dr. Joycelyn Elders has been U.S. surgeon general only four months and has already attracted more attention, without even trying, than most other members of the Clinton administration.

She caused a stir when she voiced support for the medicinal use of marijuana even before being confirmed. She was applauded for admonishing parents not to buy guns for their children.

Last month, she said legalizing drugs could reduce crime and inspired further study, an idea that was not particularly new, but words that took on greater significance because she had uttered them.

On Dec. 20, her 23-year-old son, Kevin, a white-collar worker at a Johnson & Johnson subsidiary in Little Rock, Arkansas, was arrested and charged with selling

amounts of an ounce of cocaine to undercover police in July. Kevin and his supporters have called the case a setup to embarrass his mother, noting that the case issued the warrant for his arrest a week after her comments about legalizing drugs.

In interviews, Dr. Elders said that she knew nothing of her son's possible involvement with drugs but that she stood behind him as any mother would. She said her son had not lived with her for two years and was, after all, a grown man.

"I'm very saddened that this has happened, that he was even associated with this," Dr. Elders said. "If he was involved, I'm very saddened he was involved."

Dr. Elders emphatically said that her son's arrest had not influenced her position on drug legalization or her comments about studying the issue. "I have to base what I say on the best scientific knowledge I have available,"

she said. "I can't let my emotions or personal opinions get in the way. If I were to do that, I should not be surgeon general."

"I can't base national policy and national thinking on the basis of my son."

Kevin Elders, the younger of her two sons, has been released on \$2,500 bond. A preliminary hearing, which Dr. Elders said she and her husband, Oliver, might attend, is scheduled for Feb. 21 in Little Rock.

The news, family and friends said, was devastating to Dr. Elders, a woman who had done virtually everything right: she helped raise seven younger siblings; she was the first in her family to go to college; she became a pediatrician even though she had never seen one when she was growing up, and now she is the nation's first black surgeon general.

A workaholic like the president, Dr. Elders, at her

desk in her gold-braided uniform early each morning, was one of the few top administration officials in town last week, when offices not closed for the holidays were shut for the snow.

She made no excuses for her son and said she and her husband, a retired high school basketball coach, had raised their children the best way they knew how.

"I taught my son to be the best human being I could," Dr. Elders said. "If my son was totally away from all of this, he couldn't have been set up. Anytime you have an informant selling undercover — if my son had not been anywhere around, that would not have happened."

Dr. Elders showed no bitterness or anger. She did not lay blame. But her mother, Hallie Jones, did.

"I'm tired of those drug reporters," Mrs. Jones said, standing outside her daughter's former grade school building in Toliette in southwest Arkansas, now serving

as temporary home to Tabernacle Methodist Church. "They kick my baby around so much. She's a good kid. I just hope she stands up to it."

Mrs. Jones recalled that her daughter told her a few days ago, "I look like I'm in the middle of the ocean."

She said she told her daughter: "I don't care how deep that water gets, stand up to them. Don't let them kick you down."

Friends and family members say they fear that conservatives will use Dr. Elders' comment on drugs to distract from her crusade to fight violence and teen-age pregnancy.

"We have to be able to understand the difference between family values and family problems," said her brother, the Reverend Chester Jones, a Methodist minister in Pine Bluff. "When you have a big family, there is always one person in crisis."

U.S. Reported Set To Scrap Embargo On Vietnam Trade

By Thomas W. Lippman

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's senior foreign policy advisers are close to agreement on a recommendation that he end the U.S. embargo on trade with Vietnam, according to senior officials and other sources.

Participants in a high-level meeting just before Christmas, held to assess the results of Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord's mid-December visit to Vietnam, agreed that "there were some good arguments for doing it," a senior administration official said.

But because of the political sensitivity of the issue, they decided to wait at least until after the holidays and "do a temperature-taking of people on the president's team" before making a proposal to the president, the official said.

"It's going to happen," said Representative Gary L. Ackerman, New York Democrat and chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. "It's just a question of timing."

He said the lack of public outcry against previous Clinton administration gestures toward Hanoi showed that it was politically ac-

ceptable to scrap the embargo probably by early this year.

Mr. Lord returned from Vietnam with a favorable report on Hanoi's increased cooperation in the effort to determine the fates of more than 2,200 U.S. servicemen still officially unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. That is the only issue preventing a full reconciliation.

■ Pressure Urged on MIAs

A majority of Americans would put off normal trade with Vietnam to spur cooperation in resolving the cases of missing servicemen, according to a poll published by The Associated Press.

The idea of establishing normal diplomatic relations with Vietnam appeals to many Americans. The poll found 58 percent in favor, 32 percent opposed and 10 percent not sure.

But 85 percent said they were not satisfied that Vietnam had done enough to account for the American servicemen still missing, missing in action in Southeast Asia.

A majority, 55 percent, said the United States should wait for more cooperation before establishing normal trade with Vietnam, and 40 percent agreed with establishing normal trade now in the hope of encouraging cooperation.

The poll involved telephone interviews with a random sample of 1,005 adults on Dec. 8-12 by ICR Survey Research Group. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points.



John Kampfner/Redux
Mr. Clinton missing a pass in a big way during a football game on the beach in South Carolina.

NATO: East Is on Hold

Continued from Page 1

military training and exercises that will allow them to associate themselves with the alliance without offering formal membership or the security guarantees that come with it.

Reflecting the dominant view within the administration, a senior official described the approach as a "prudent and evolutionary" way to update NATO without alarming the Russians and inviting a massive debate over adding members.

But critics within the administration derive it as a "Russia-only" plan that puts off the question of NATO expansion.

"It is the subordination of our hopes for Central European democracy, where democracy is a feasible and likely, to our extravagant hopes for democracy in Russia," said one administration official.

In his memo, Mr. Talbot argued that if NATO was opened to the East European nations, like Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary, would be admitted soon, since they have gone the furthest toward carrying out democratic reforms. But Russia and Ukraine, whose efforts are less advanced, would be left outside for years.

This, he argued, would encourage Russian fears that NATO was committed to a policy of containing Russian power and would also complicate efforts to persuade Ukraine to give up its nuclear arms.

"The argument is that the worst thing to do would be to draw a new line across Europe which would exclude Russia from the security community," said a senior State Department official.

On Oct. 18, the Monday after the memo, Mr. Christopher met with top aides to review both sides of the debate. As a result of Mr. Talbot's arguments, and of concerns over how Congress would view NATO expansion, Mr. Christopher sided with Mr. Talbot's approach, and their view prevailed at a cabinet-level meeting that day.

On Oct. 19, Mr. Christopher and Mr. Aspin flew to Europe to explain the new policy.

To soothe East European feelings and persuade them to go along with the administration's plan for military training and peacekeeping exercises, President Bill Clinton plans to meet in Prague with leaders of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia after the NATO summit meeting and before going to Moscow.

But some East European nations, particularly Poland, are deeply skeptical. Foreign Minister Andrzej Olechowski of Poland said recently that East European countries might decline to take part if the path to NATO membership was not more clearly mapped out.

"We will say 'no' if we come to the conclusion that this program is just a second Yalta or it closes the door to NATO membership," Mr. Olechowski said.

By Steve Lohr

New York Times Service

Thomas J. Watson Jr., 79, who led IBM and America into the computer age, prompting Fortune magazine to call him "the greatest capitalist who ever lived," died Friday at a hospital in Greenwich, Connecticut. He had suffered a stroke earlier last month.

A lifelong Democrat, who was unusually outspoken on policy issues for a business executive, Mr. Watson embarked on a brief career of public service after he retired as chairman of the International Business Machines Corp. in 1971.

He became an ardent advocate for nuclear arms reduction and served as the U.S. ambassador to Moscow in the Carter administration from 1979 to 1981.

Mr. Watson was one of the great business leaders of our time, a splendid ambassador to the Soviet Union during a very difficult period, and a remarkable man," said Cyrus R. Vance, secretary of state during the Carter administration and a former board member of IBM.

A child of privilege, private schools and wealth, Mr. Watson was an indifferent student, who once confessed that he spent his years at Brown University "mostly flying airplanes and fooling around." Though he was graduated in 1935, and it was in business, especially after a three-year stint in the Army Air Corps in World War II, that Mr. Watson's energy, intelligence and shrewd instincts became apparent.

He joined a company that his father, Thomas J. Watson Sr., had taken over in 1914, when it was still called the Computing Tabulating Recording Co. Under his father, who renamed it IBM, the company became a medium-sized concern making punch-card machines.

Mr. Watson was a driven manager, routinely working 12 to 14 hours a day, traveling extensively to visit the company's overseas offices and driving his subordinates as well. He created the system of internal competition among IBM managers, known as the contention system. Under it, almost anyone was allowed to challenge the decisions of other managers and force them to explain their reasoning.

In addition, the administration has tried to engage China in trying to persuade North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons program,

had to balance its approach to China between those who call for punitive action over rights violations and those who argue that China must be accommodated because of its importance as a growing market.

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It worked well during IBM's fast-growing days from the 1950s to 1970s. But it became ossified after Mr. Watson left, and in recent years the contention system has been blamed for bogging down decision-making in layers of corporate bureaucracy.

Irving Paul (Swiftly) Lazar, 86, Wheeler-Dealer Hollywood Agent

New York Times Service

Under the younger Watson, IBM became one of the world's biggest corporations and business legends. When Mr. Watson retired in 1971, and for nearly two decades afterward, IBM was regarded worldwide as a symbol of management excellence and technological prowess. IBM's recent troubles — financial losses and huge layoffs, caused by the decline of the big mainframe computers that were the company's traditional strength — were a source of deep regret to Mr. Watson, though he no longer sat on the IBM board.

"They hired my father to make a go of the company in 1914, the year I was born," Mr. Watson said in 1992. "To some degree I've been a part of IBM ever since. When you see something you love have great difficulties, you are very sad about it."

Mr. Watson's real business insight was to recognize the profound change that electronics would mean for calculating everything from census data to corporate balance sheets to market research. Electronics — first as vacuum tubes, then as transistors, and later as integrated circuits — replaced the electro-mechanical business machines that relied on electric motors, levers and punch cards.

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But he was far more explicit than his superiors had been in showing a preference for abandoning the

Cesar Romero, a Star of 'Batman,' At 86 After 60-Year Acting Career

SANTA MONICA, California (AP) —

Cesar Romero, 86, whose acting career on stage, in movies and television spanned nearly six decades, died here Sunday. The cause of death was a blood clot after severe bronchitis and pneumonia.

The tall, swarthy actor was often cast as a gigolo or the "other man," but he claimed to have escaped the title of Latin Lover. "When I started in motion pictures in 1934, they said I was going to be the next Valentino," he recalled in 1984. "I was never a leading man, and very seldom did I do a picture where I got the girl. But I was saddled with the label because I had a Latin name. My background is Cuban, but I'm from New York City. I'm a Latin from Manhattan."

Mr. Romero made his biggest impact as the evil, pim-pal-cracking Joker in the faddish "Batman" series of the 1960s.

Rita Klimova, 62, a former dissident who served as Czechoslovakia's first ambassador to the United States after the ouster of the Communist government, died Thursday in a Prague hospital. She had recently undergone treatment for leukemia.

Isaac Sabri Caglayan, 85, a former foreign minister of Turkey in the 1960s and '70s, died in Ankara on Thursday, the Anatolian News Agency said.

Pierre-Paul Schweizer, 81, director of the International Monetary Fund from 1963 to 1973, died Sunday. Mr. Schweizer was appointed France's Finance Inspector in 1936, then held senior posts in the Finance Ministry and Bank of France before joining the IMF. He lived in Paris and Switzerland.

CHINA: Despite Continuing Abuses, U.S. Ambassador Reports Progress on Human Rights

Continued from Page 1

transformation under way in China should not be ignored.

China now trades with the United States under what is known as "most favored nation" status, which means that its exports face the lowest trade barrier in force when they enter the United States.

This, he argued, would encourage

and many argue that a confrontational approach does not work.

In his remarks, Mr. Roy took care to reserve for the White House a full range of policy options that should China fail to make further progress in human rights.

But he was far more explicit than his superiors had been in showing a preference for abandoning the

practice of linking of China's trade status to its human rights record, calling the linkage abnormal.

"At the core of our approach," Mr. Roy said, "is not the idea that we can somehow get beyond the human rights factor in our relationship with China."

"Rather, it is a question of what is the most effective way" to press human rights concerns, he said, while conducting normal diplomatic relations on crucial Asian security issues.

"If you look at the 150 years of modern China's history since the Opium Wars, then you can't avoid the conclusion that the last 15 years are the best 15 years in China's modern history," Mr. Roy said.

"And of those 15 years, the last two years are the best in terms of prosperity, individual choice, access to outside sources of information, freedom of movement within the country and stable domestic conditions."

Mr. Roy was referring to social and economic forces that have effectively curtailed party control over where people live, work and go to school and whether they can be admitted to universities or get married.

He argued that a new "diversity" had taken root in Chinese society, and the environment around it.

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Continued from Page

INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Europe's Job in 1994

For the European Community, 1994 should be the year when it starts to get its economic house in order. That means, among other things, two hard decisions about the way most of the member countries treat people at work and people without work. Since those decisions seem to point in different directions, Europe needs to understand why they are in fact both parts of the same thing.

The first aim is to begin getting Europe back into shape to compete with the economies of Japan and America — and tomorrow, maybe, with China's. It is necessary to cut the practices that help to make Europe's products more expensive than theirs.

Too much of the European economy is still inefficiently run by the state. Too many cosy social welfare cushions prop up Europe's workers, whoever employs them. The cushioned economy, perfected in Germany, has been copied by too many of Germany's neighbors. These things are comfortable, but comfort tends to bring a paunch, and paunchy Europe is trailing behind its competitors in the economic race. If Europe's politicians have the honesty to explain this, Europe's people will see why they need to cut their waistline.

The practices of Social Europe, which ease today's working life, are inexorably bringing pain tomorrow. Higher costs mean more expensive products, and more expensive products mean fewer sales. Fewer sales will mean fewer jobs, and longer lines of unemployed, at every stage of the economic cycle. When the workers of 1994 realize that they are buying present comfort at the price of future discomfort — and condemning their children, perhaps, to be laborers in a

third-grade economy — they will start to make Europe more efficient.

The second task facing Europe in 1994 is to be more urgent about the needs of those who are already unemployed — but to be urgent in the right, non-self-destructive way. The Community's jobless rate has reached 11 percent, nearly twice America's figure and four times Japan's. A shockingly higher proportion of Europe's total consists of people who have been out of work for a long time. It is necessary to do something about this, not just in the name of compassion — although that is where it starts — but also for the sake of a peaceful Europe. Long-term unemployment is one cause of the growing social disorder of the 1990s.

The problem must be tackled, however, in ways that do not make the Community even more of an economic laggard. Caring for the unemployed means spending money — money to give the jobless a living, to train some of them for new sorts of work, perhaps to create temporary jobs like those that helped Franklin Roosevelt's America through the early 1930s. But this expenditure must not grow too large, or it will block the economic recovery that will in the end be the best provider of jobs. The unemployed must be helped, so long as they are genuinely looking for work. If they are not, they cannot be supported at a cost which hurts all Europe.

Both parts of this 1994 agenda rest on the same proposition. The European welfare state has grown too indiscriminate. Those who need care, for whatever reason, should get it; those who can look after themselves should not. Europe can go on being generous if it aims its generosity with more precision.

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

Forget the Great Game

Vladimir Zhirkovskiy may prove to be an evanescent blowhard, but the shudder provoked by his unexpectedly strong showing in Russia's parliamentary vote is justified. He wants to restore the vast empire built by the czars, a Great Russia stretching from Finland to Alaska, and even talk of going to the Dardanelles and the Indian Ocean, the predestined borders of a Fourth Rome. Recent history amply warns against dismissing such talk as the ravings of a buffoon. Mr. Zhirkovskiy's rhetorical volleys may be raw, and home-brewed, but it fills a very old bottle. He is restating the expansionist goals that drove czarist foreign policy, and in doing so touches deep chords of nostalgia.

From the time of Peter the Great until 1914, Russia's inexorable expansion was a source of anxious wonder to the rest of the world. In those years the czar's empire spread at a rate of 140 square kilometers a day, or about 50,000 square kilometers a year. In the 19th century alone it expanded by a third; czarist conquests in Asia brought the Russian empire from a few thousand to a few hundred kilometers from British India.

What had begun as a military measure to contain Central Asia's Mongol warriors evolved into a sacred mandate to elevate supposedly primitive peoples, provide land for Russian peasants and paint the map with imperial colors, just as rival Europeans were doing. But energies and rubles that might have been invested in Russia vanished into desolate terrain inhabited by hostile peoples. And as czarist armies raced toward India, the alarms sounded in Victorian England.

The result was a protracted secret struggle for mastery of Central Asia known as the "Great Game," amply chronicled in a recent book by Peter Hopkirk. The phrase was made famous by Rudyard Kipling in his novel "Kim," but was devised far earlier by Captain Arthur Conolly, a British operative who was beheaded as a spy in 1842 by the emir of Bokhara. The Game acquired a romantic

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

The Vatican and Israel

Approval of an accord that is to lead to full diplomatic relations between Israel and the Vatican is a notable step forward for the two entities and for the different sorts of religious communities for which they speak. Vatican recognition of Israel — Israel's readiness to recognize the Vatican was never in doubt — should have taken place years if not decades ago. That Pope John Paul II is making the move now will comfort Israelis and many non-Israeli Jews, among others. It will also broaden the Pope's capacity to care for church interests in Jerusalem and to contribute to making peace in the Middle East.

As early as 1904, Theodor Herzl, founder of modern Zionism, explained his interest in a Jewish state in Rome, but Pius X opposed Jews' return, as Zionists put it, to the Holy Land on grounds that "Jews have not recognized our Lord." Subsequently the conditioning of recognition on conversion yielded to the more presentable position — but one that the Vatican applied to no other strife-torn place — that recognition should hinge on achievement of peace. A "humanitarian" concern for Jewish welfare, yes. Political recognition, no. Meanwhile the Vatican was moving

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

closer to the PLO, a development that at that time revived many Israelis' fears that the church had not yet fully recovered from its historical anti-Semitism.

The Vatican ice began to break only after the American-sponsored Middle East peace negotiations got under way in Madrid in the fall of 1991. Israelis were able to argue that the West was moving on and that it was time for the Vatican to end its formal ostracism of Israel — a posture that had lent a certain unfortunate color of acceptability to others with a directly hostile intent. At first Pope John Paul kept his counsel, but now, following in the steps of Yasser Arafat, he is bringing

The Vatican can now reasonably expect a more sympathetic Israeli hearing for its concerns in Jerusalem. The church will also be able to participate in the working groups of the peace talks dealing with refugees, economic cooperation and the like. Further, recognition will remove the principal roadblock to progress in dialogue between American Catholics and Jews. John Paul is to be commended for this major policy turn.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

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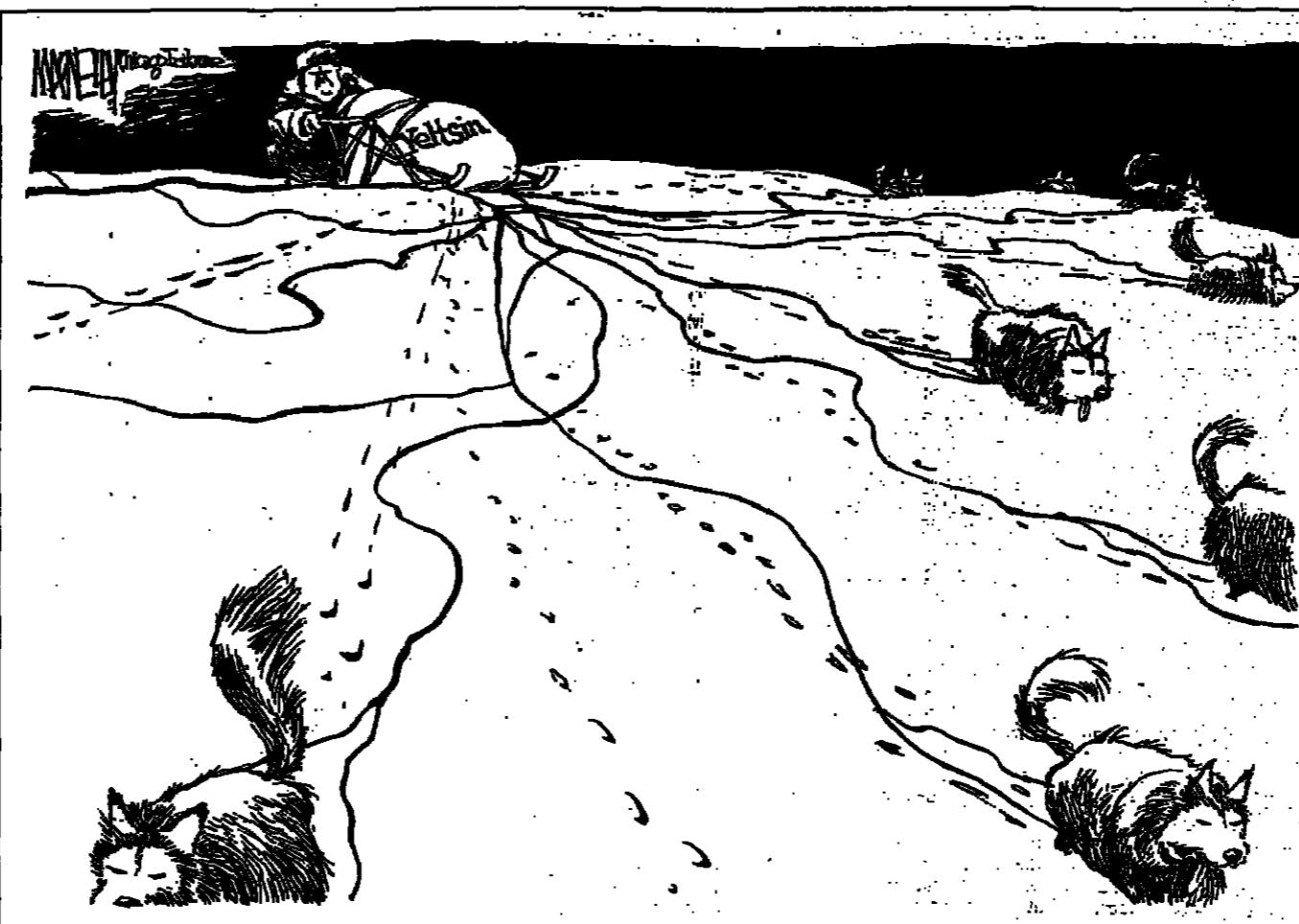
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Time for Clinton to Tell Europe Where It Stands

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — A year into his administration Bill Clinton visits Europe this month for the first time. He has made Europe wait, and he has made Europe uneasy. His journey will provide clues to this mystery: Has he thrown the European off balance on purpose, to advance a still undisclosed design of American leadership — in which case he is to be commended — or has he created a damaging deficit of confidence across the Atlantic through accident and inattention?

A gentleman never insults anyone unintentionally, Oscar Wilde said. And a POTUS (White House acronym for President of the United States) should not make allies nervous and create doubts about fundamental relationships unless something important is to be gained by doing so.

The president and his secretary of state, Warren Christopher, have publicly voiced complaints about and irritation with the Europeans' several times during the past year, emphasizing their sense of European decline and weakness. Mr. Christopher especially has made clear his lack of confidence, and perhaps even his lack of interest in Europe, while constantly stressing the growing importance of Asia.

Those comments may have been useful while America was negotiating with the European Community on the trade rules covered by GATT and while America was trying (unsuccessfully) to get Europe to intervene militarily on the side of the Bosnian Muslims in ex-Yugoslavia. But with the trade negotiations concluded and Bosnia not now a subject of division, the journey Mr. Clinton embarks on next week marks a turning point.

If there is a coherent Asia-first Clinton strategy that includes belittling the Europeans for good

pose, this trip is the time to make that clear. In one sense that would reassure officials and diplomats in London, Paris and Brussels who have misgivings about the lack of clear priorities and definition in Mr. Clinton's foreign policy. Europeans are sufficiently realistic about their place in the world to take a clear new American direction in stride and adjust to it — if they can see what it is.

Mr. Clinton's predecessors used NATO as the primary instrument of American leadership in European political and economic affairs. When he attends the NATO summit in Brussels on Jan. 10, he should demonstrate how he intends to continue that tradition of leadership beyond the Cold War — or sketch his alternative of lessened American responsibilities and authority in Europe.

Remaining silent or vague on this crucial point at the summit would set European doubts about Mr. Clinton's decisiveness and vision in concrete.

He travels on to Prague, Moscow and Minsk from Brussels. So the American president at the summit will have to bring the European members of NATO more fully into his plans for handling the multiple crises of the former Soviet Union. It remains unclear how, or even if, he sees America and Europe working together to help entrench democracy and capitalism in Russia and Ukraine.

Mr. Clinton, who hosted a Pacific summit in November and visited Japan in July for the Group of Seven summit, disclaims any machiavellian intent or ulterior motive in visiting this long to visit Europe and highlight the trans-Atlantic relationship.

If there is a coherent Asia-first Clinton strategy that includes belittling the Europeans for good

pose, he and Mr. Christopher deny that they are lessening U.S. attention to Europe while thickening America's relations with Asia.

They realistically point out that the president will be visiting Europe on four occasions this year: for the NATO summit, the 50th anniversary of the landings in France in June, the Group of Seven summit in Italy in July and a ceremonial summit meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Hungary in the autumn.

But that response is indicative of the problems that plague a relationship that was central to winning the Cold War. They are not likely to be fixed by ceremonial visits and memorable speeches alone, however welcome those will be. What is missing is the day-to-day sense of trust and clear private communications that guided the Atlantic relationship through far more difficult times.

One telling example among others: When Mr. Clinton decided to pull American troops out of Somalia by March 31, key German officials, who had expended large amounts of political capital to get German troops to Somalia, learned of the decision from radio broadcasts.

Mr. Clinton's trip is not a time for fine-tuning such communication problems. They will sort themselves out if he unveils his vision of America's role in Europe and Europe's destiny in the Clinton era. If there is not a vision to be unveiled, that will become apparent on this European journey. It would then be important for Mr. Clinton to make the trip a fence-mending effort to clear up why he and Mr. Christopher have been insulting the Europeans in the worst possible way: unilaterally.

The Washington Post

Engagement in Europe, Partnership With Russia

By Timothy Garton Ash, Michael Mertes and Dominique Moïsi

The election results have intensified the debate over inclusion in NATO of the East-Central European democracies. It has been argued that the West should keep out of such places lest they provoke a bitter reaction in Russia and weaken its democratic, pro-Western camp. Yet the uncertainties with regard to Russia's future make the nervousness of its neighbors entirely understandable. In fact, it is Russian democrats themselves who warn us of these uncertainties.

Some in the West will feel confirmed in a deep belief that Russia can never become a consolidated democracy, and that it was vain from the outset to try to support Russian democrats. But others, like us, are convinced that this is the time to support Russian democrats.

Russian fascists exploit conspiracy theories much like those which contaminated the political atmosphere in defeated Germany after World War I. But Russia has not been defeated.

The end of the Soviet Union was a triumph for the universal values of human and civil rights, democracy and the rule of law.

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reformed its military, however cooperative its political leaders, would, for the time being, get anything more than a "partnership for peace." There are encouraging signs that NATO has begun to reconsider the issue.

A partners for peace should be proposed to Russia's democrats, as part of renewed Western support for them. As for the East-Central European states, substantially more should be offered to them, in the form of a contract with NATO — an explicit "engagement" meaning that a proper marriage lies ahead.

This engagement could proceed through three steps. In the first one, East-Central European countries would participate in the political consultation mechanisms as well as in the parliamentary assembly of NATO. In a second step, their forces would participate in NATO peacekeeping and peacemaking operations, under the aegis of the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. In a third and final step, they would enter the full mutual security guarantee contained in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

Many Russian democrats understand that a strengthening of stability and democracy in East-Central Europe is in their interest. This will be all the better understood if accompanied by a clearer commitment from the West to support Russian democracy.

Nothing would be more dangerous for the West than a combination of pessimism and passivity.

Timothy Garton Ash is author most recently of "Europe's Name: Germany and the Divided Continent." Michael Mertes is a senior policy adviser to Chancellor Helmut Kohl, writing here in a personal capacity. Dominique Moïsi is deputy director of the Institut Français des Relations Internationales. They contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

The New York Times

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1894: Attempt on Czar

VIENNA — The Croow newspaper published in Polish contains accounts of an abortive attempt to poison the Czar, on the occasion of a dinner in honor of the Knights of St. George a week ago. Among the courses was one of fish, and as only half was consumed, the Czar ordered the remainder to be taken to 160 orphans of the St. Nicholas Asylum. The children, as well as the Emperor and some of the guests, were taken ill soon after partaking of the fish.

The measures undertaken by the conflicting forces at work on economic policy. On the one hand is the push for coherent policies, based on the market but subject to central discipline. On the other is the "growth is good" sloganizing which is popular in the prosperous south but ignores inflation and could turn reform into anarchy. This has already spawned a panicky, selective reimposition of commodity price controls.

All this is intimately bound up with the politics of succession. The outcome is as unpredictable as where the float will take the year.

International Herald Tribune

1944: Pessimistic Hitler

LONDON — [From our New York edition:] Adolf Hitler in a grim New Year's message to the German people, today [Dec. 31] offered them only hope of dogged resistance for their very lives, and anticipating invasion from the west, boasted that "wherever they land the Allies will receive an appropriate welcome." Hitler again sounded the German propaganda note that "in this war there will be no victors and losers, but merely survivors and annihilated."

A separate New Year's order of the day to the army called 1943 "a second year of great crisis" initiated by the Russian winter offensive of 1941-43.

A Principle Survives In Bosnia

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — The year 1993 left at least one mark on modern history: the principle of the ethnoreligious state was established in Europe. That is what Bosnia means. The inhumanity plucks at us — the daily toll of shells and cold and hunger. But what really matters is the principle.

The Serbs set out to "cleanse" territory that they claimed in Bosnia by the murder and expulsion of non-Serbs. They succeeded. And Western leaders have acquiesced in the result. Indeed, they want the government of Bosnia to accept the division of the country along ethnoreligious lines.

It is really religion that identifies the Serbs, Croats and Muslims of former Yugoslavia: Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Muslim. They are all

مكتبة الأصل

A 'Fair' Nuclear Settlement? North Korean Plans 'Statement' With U.S.

By David E. Sanger

TOKYO — North Korea's paramount leader, Kim Il Sung, said that his country had agreed to a "joint statement" with the United States, paving the way for the nuclear dispute between them to be "settled fairly," but he warned that any effort to press his country to make broader concessions "may invite catastrophe."

Mr. Kim's declaration was contained in a lengthy New Year's address that also laid out a radical new strategy for rescuing North Korea's crippled economy. It did not describe the agreement with the United States in detail, but North Korea's Foreign Ministry suggested in a later announcement that international inspectors would be permitted only into the country's seven declared nuclear sites, and only for one-time inspections. According to the announcement, North Korea refuses to allow the kind of regular visits by the International Atomic Energy Agency that are required under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Both the United States and South Korea have said that nothing short of full compliance with the treaty will be sufficient if the North wants to proceed with talks about normalizing diplomatic relations and opening the door to foreign investment and trade.

In his speech, delivered to the central committee of the Korean Workers' Party, Mr. Kim made no direct connection between resolving the nuclear dispute and attaining North Korea's major objective: trading links to economic powers it once scorned. But he suggested that North Korea would have to change dramatically in order to develop foreign markets.

The State Department said Thursday, without revealing details, that the two sides had "moved closer" to some kind of preliminary agreement on the nuclear inspection issue. But officials say North Korea will first come up with an inspection plan that satisfies the atomic energy agency.

Officials say the "joint statement" referred to by Mr. Kim would come after a team of atomic energy agency inspectors arrived at North Korea's nuclear installations in Yongbyon. The United States would then officially announce the cancellation of "Team Spirit," an annual military exercise with South Korea. Privately, American and South Korean officials say they have little desire to hold the exercises this year.

The statement would most likely also include some agreement about the exchange of envoys between North and South Korea, a prelude to restarting talks

that have essentially gone nowhere since the two countries signed a declaration of nonaggression in 1991.

If the inspections went ahead smoothly, probably in the next several weeks, the two countries would then meet in Geneva to discuss a "package deal" of economic incentives in return for broader inspection rights. For the United States, the most critical inspections involve two nuclear waste dumps that may reveal how much plutonium North Korea has produced.

But a "special inspection" of those sites, which the atomic energy agency has been demanding since early 1993, is not covered in the current talks. North Korea argues that the sites are military locations unrelated to its nuclear program, and that such a merely "suspended" its decision last March to pull out of the nonproliferation treaty, it is not bound by any treaty obligations. In essence, the North argues that it is still in the treaty and half out of it, and will permit inspections only as it sees fit.

Discussions about conducting a "special inspection" American officials have said, would be part of talks in Geneva.

Any evidence that Washington was backing down from its initial stand that the North must agree to full regular inspections as well as the special inspections later could open the United States to charges that it is giving in to pressure blackmail. Critics of the administration are already arguing that President Bill Clinton is reluctant to back up his declaration of a month ago that North Korea would never be allowed to possess nuclear weapons.

The American intelligence community, in a conclusion disputed by the State Department, indicated recently that Mr. Kim's government probably has already fabricated at least one bomb. By insisting on regular inspections, Washington is trying to assure that Mr. Kim does not acquire plutonium to build more, but officials concede that they are unlikely to find completed weapons.

At times in his speech Saturday, Mr. Kim sounded a militant note. While calling for an overhaul of the North Korean economy, he also said his country needed to strengthen its defense power to counter the enemy's moves to provoke war, apparently referring to both the United States and South Korea. "We must be fully prepared, politically and ideologically, militarily and materially, to deal with any contingency on our initiative," he said.

The statement would most likely also include some agreement about the exchange of envoys between North and South Korea, a prelude to restarting talks

His Fate Unclear, Hosokawa Stirs Worry

By T. R. Reid
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — When Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa arrives at the White House in five weeks for a meeting with President Bill Clinton, he could be one of the most powerful leaders in postwar Japanese history. Or he could be a "dead body" — Japan's brutal term for a lame duck.

The uncertainty over the political fate of Mr. Hosokawa during the next several weeks has rattled policymakers on both sides of the Pacific as they try to plan the Feb. 11 meeting of the leaders of the world's two richest countries.

In the five months since his coalition government took office — ending four decades of one-party conservative rule — Mr. Hosokawa has scored some major successes and demonstrated striking political skills. But if he does not succeed on the next big test, his government could fall.

By Jan. 29, when the current session of parliament ends, Mr. Hosokawa must achieve final passage of his ambitious plan to revamp the electoral system and the political contribution laws. If the package does not pass, Mr. Hosokawa has said, he will "take the responsibility" — a meaning that he may resign and dissolve his cabinet.

The question continued to hang over Mr. Hosokawa as Japan welcomed 1994, the Year of the Dog in the Oriental zodiac calendar. In his New Year's address, he pledged again to pass the "reform" bills this month. But opposition leaders said he was spending too much time on the issue and should focus on the economy instead.

In a peace initiative launched by the two governments on Dec. 15, Mr. Major and Mr. Reynolds told Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, that its representatives could sit down at peace talks over the future of the province, if the IRA agreed to put down its arms after 25 years and abandon its campaign of violence.

Zhirinovsky Puts a Price on Quotes

Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — Want a word with Vladimir V. Zhirinovsky? That'll be \$500, please, for the first five minutes.

The Russian ultranationalist who made a surprisingly strong showing in last month's parliamentary elections, is demonstrating that he has the same nimble touch at public relations as he does at public diplomacy.

Just back from a European tour, where he was expelled from Bulgaria, banned by Bonn and denounced in Romania, he has informed foreign reporters that the days of free interviews are over.

Interviews with print reporters will be \$300 for the first five minutes. After that, the fee is negotiable. Televised interviews are a lot more. Mr. Zhirinovsky himself asked at least one American television network for \$60,000 for an on-air interview. The network refused.

Most American and European news organizations, including The Washington Post, do not pay for interviews as a matter of policy. Vlachoslav Shishulin, an aide to Mr. Zhirinovsky, said a number of media outlets had paid for interviews, but he did not mention which ones.

MIDEAST: Digging In Heels

Continued from Page 1

other security arrangements that are the main issues.

Israel insists there was a "meeting of minds," a point repeated Sunday by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who had led the Israeli negotiators in Cairo. He said that he and his PLO counterpart, Mahmoud Abbas, had reached understandings with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt on hand as a witness.

Just as insistently, PLO leaders say that the so-called agreement was nothing but a draft of the Israeli position, and one subsequently rejected by Mr. Arafat, who offered his latest thoughts on border controls and Jericho's size in a fax sent to Mr. Rabin several days ago.

It is an important dispute, for Mr. Rabin asserts that the basis for future talks is the accord he says was reached in Cairo. Mr. Arafat is now back-pedaling, the prime minister says. And if that is the case, he says, everything can be renegotiated as though from the beginning.

The PLO leader has taken a similarly tough stand, warning that Palestinians will not accept what he calls Israeli attempts to "humiliate" them. Israel's insistence on control over border passages for security reasons, Mr. Arafat says, would turn Gaza and Jericho into bastions, the equivalents of the black homelands of South Africa.

"We will not live in bastions," he told a Palestinian gathering in Jericho Sunday by telephone from his headquarters in Tunis.

As this tug-of-war continues, there are signs that Israel may change its energies into long-stalled talks with Syria.

In two weeks, President Bill Clinton is supposed to meet with President Hafez Assad in Geneva, and some officials here say the Syrian leader is unlikely to go empty-handed.

A foreshadowing of possible new directions came this weekend with disclosures that Israeli and Syrian academics had secretly met in Norway in October, agreeing on a document in which the Syrians spelled out a detailed vision of "full peace" in return for a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, captured from Syria in 1967.

Although neither side represented an official position, an Israeli participant, Yossi Olmer, said that Israel was kept informed and that the Syrians were there with their government's blessing.

"The positions they express may be a little ahead of the official government position, but it will become the official government position in due course," said Mr. Olmer, who was a negotiator with Syria under the previous Israeli government led by the Likud Party.

Major Stands by His IRA Bid But, He Warns, Offer on Talks Must Be Accepted As Is

By William E. Schmidt
New York Times Service

aimed at driving the British from Northern Ireland.

"There is no doubt that if Sinn Fein let the opportunity slip that now lies in front of them they would find themselves increasingly isolated," Mr. Major said.

As the prime minister spoke Sunday, Martin McGuinness, a high-ranking Sinn Fein official, was quoted in Dublin as describing the British-Irish proposal as unacceptable, unless the British would declare their willingness to withdraw still on the table.

But he said the group must agree to accept the current proposal, as it stands, without negotiation.

"I have no more to tell them, and I don't think Albert Reynolds will, either," Mr. Major said, referring to the Irish prime minister, during a BBC radio interview. He refused to set a deadline for IRA acceptance of the proposal, saying only that he was prepared to be "patient for a little while."

In a peace initiative launched by the two governments on Dec. 15, Mr. Major and Mr. Reynolds told Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, that its representatives could sit down at peace talks over the future of the province, if the IRA agreed to put down its arms after 25 years and abandon its campaign of violence.

Until now, the IRA and Sinn Fein have offered no direct response to the initiative, although the IRA signaled last week in a New Year's message that it wanted peace but had so far seen nothing persuasive enough to give up its armed campaign.

As if to punctuate that assertion, the group launched a series of attacks in the waning days of 1993, after its 72-hour holiday cease-fire expired the day after Christmas.

On Thursday, it took responsibility for a sniper attack near the Irish border in which a British soldier on foot patrol was killed. On the two previous nights, there had been attacks on police and British Army units in Northern Ireland, including a mortar fired at an army patrol in Belfast.

On Friday night, an IRA fire-bomb blitz in Belfast caused millions of dollars in damage to stores.

In the past, the IRA has rarely tipped its hand or discussed its guerrilla strategy, but Reuters quoted an unidentified Republicans source on Sunday as saying that the group would step up attacks to inflame British public opinion, with a view to provoking withdrawal from Northern Ireland.

"We're going to see more of these attacks," the source was quoted as saying. "The idea is to get the British to throw up their hands and say, 'Let's get out of Northern Ireland for good.'"

ETHICS: Race as the Latest 'Designer Baby' Option

Continued from Page 1

ethics, science and information division of the British Medical Association that the cases publicized last week demonstrated "how far reproductive technology is developing."

"I don't think that either nationally or internationally we have developed an adequate framework of ethical principles to support doctors who are helping patients with fertility problems," Dr. Firth said. "This is going to come to the fore more frequently."

"It is not merely the instance of race," she pointed out, adding, "There are other characteristics which will be able to select for."

Gigliani Appeals for New York Unity

NEW YORK — Mayor Rudolph Giuliani called for unity in the city on Sunday, while promising to crack down on crime and reduce the city's persistent budget problems.

Dr. Firth, Fisher, head of the

British couple seeking treatment at Bourn Hall Clinic are reportedly eager to have their child resemble the father in skin color.

Dr. Firth said he saw no reason not to go ahead with implanting a white donor's fertilized egg into the black woman's uterus. The major issue, he said, is a shortage of eggs from black donors.

Hugh Whittall of the Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority, which licenses clinics that perform implantation and similar procedures, agreed, saying donations of eggs and sperm from blacks and other ethnic minorities were not sufficient to meet demand.

Chips has been the site of numerous incidents involving indigenous groups in recent years. Poverty and religious and ethnic conflicts are prevalent in the region.

The government in Mexico City said it was "watching the situation" and stressed that it was acting "prudently."

A spokesman said that Chihuahua was "a state that really has social problems, poverty and marginalization that date back 500 years" to the beginning of Spanish colonization.

(Reuters, AFP, AP)

BOOKS

MARK ROTHKO: A Biography

By James E. B. Breslin, 700 pages, \$39.95. University of Chicago Press.

Reviewed by Paul Richard

THEY found Mark Rothko's T body — face up, arms outstretched — in a pond of blood on Feb. 25, 1970, in his cheaply furnished, dimly lit studio in Manhattan. The painter, 67, had been living there alone. It's strange how artists' sudden deaths infiltrate their art: Shelleys and van Goghs did, Rothko's did as well. Some aura of his suicide, some sliver of the scene — the razor-blashed arms, the red-to-black of dying blood, the martyr's posture of the corpse — has put another shadow deep into the gloom of his final, plum-dark paintings. But that he wanted us to tremble in the presence of his art.

He said, "The people who were before my pictures are having the same religious experience I had when I painted them." I would speak of tragedy and myth, and Kierkegaard's leap of faith, when offering accounts of his mutated color-clouds. He said, "I have imprisoned the most intense violence in every inch of their surface." He must have been among the last artists in New York to believe that unbound powdered pigments, and beat-up eggs and glue, could summon dread and awe.

Beholders loved his pictures. Rothko didn't trust them. That we might read his canvases as experiments in color, or as million-dollar objects, was a prospect he confronted with furious indignation. "When a crowd of people looks at a painting, I think of blasphemy," he said.

Rothko was no art-saint, no New York William Blake. He was often selfish, quarrelsome, slovenly and ride. The troubled and divided man who emerges from the pages of James E. B. Breslin's long, luminous biography is a most unpleasant guy.

Fearful, wracked by doubt, jealous in his fierce dislikes, Rothko hated many things: phantasms and flowers and especially the rich. After agreeing (he later reneged) to decorate the Four Seasons restaurant in the Seagram Building on Fifth Avenue, where, as he put it, "the richest bastards in New York will come to feed and show off," he explained that his motives were "strictly malicious."

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

Test your skill in dummy play, cover the East-West cards on the diagramed deal and plan the play in six hearts after the opening lead of the diamond king.

The deal occurred at a regional tournament in East Brunswick, New Jersey, in August, and helped Dan and Natalie Horwitz of Nine Plains and Dick and Genevieve Hewitt of Manhattan finish second in the Senior Swiss Team. Mrs. Hewitt found herself in six hearts, and proceeded to vindicate her partner's aggressive bidding.

West produced the diamond king, the only lead to give the declarer trouble, since he could not afford to draw trumps and establish clubs for wins. In the diamond suit, Mrs. Hewitt thought matters over and made a fine play by leading the club queen.

Lured by the play of the king and queen of hearts, but that is a much worse play.

East was forced to take the club and could do nothing effective.

After a diamond return, South could cash the heart ace and the spade ace, then return to hand with a spade ruff to draw trumps. There was still a club in the closed hand to reach dummy's winners.

Notice that South would have been in difficulty if he had cashed the club ace at the second trick and continued with the queen.

West produced the diamond king, again forcing a ruff in the dummy, as it happens, South would have two ways to survive: Playing a third club, intending to ruff with the diamond suit, Mrs. Hewitt thought matters over and made a fine play by leading the club queen.

PLEASURE: Good-Bye Bran Muffins, Hello Chips

Continued from Page 1

• In 1993, HarperCollins printed 450,000 copies of "Eat More, Weigh Less" by Dr. Dean Ornish, the heart specialist whose low-fat regimen has been shown to reverse heart disease. Simon & Schuster, on the other hand, printed 850,000 copies of "Stop the Insanity!" by Sunil Powter's book about getting off the diet merry-go-round.

• Almost three years ago, McDonald's introduced the McLean Deluxe, a reduced-fat beef patty; last summer, the company began test-marketing the McLean, a half-pound hamburger served with cheese and sauce.

"They didn't lose weight," she said, "they still got fired, and they're still unhappy."

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WEEKLY INTERNATIONAL BOND PRICES

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(44 20 7) 322 40 00. Prices may
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Dollar Straights

Governments/
Supranationals

Bonds

Issuer	Ccy	Mat	Price	Yld	Spd	Trdy
Denmark Pr 1990	DKK	1990	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1991	DKK	1991	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1992	DKK	1992	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1993	DKK	1993	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1994	DKK	1994	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1995	DKK	1995	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1996	DKK	1996	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1997	DKK	1997	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1998	DKK	1998	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 1999	DKK	1999	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2000	DKK	2000	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2001	DKK	2001	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2002	DKK	2002	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2003	DKK	2003	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2004	DKK	2004	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2005	DKK	2005	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2006	DKK	2006	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2007	DKK	2007	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2008	DKK	2008	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2009	DKK	2009	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2010	DKK	2010	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2011	DKK	2011	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2012	DKK	2012	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2013	DKK	2013	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2014	DKK	2014	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2015	DKK	2015	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2016	DKK	2016	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2017	DKK	2017	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2018	DKK	2018	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2019	DKK	2019	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2020	DKK	2020	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2021	DKK	2021	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2022	DKK	2022	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2023	DKK	2023	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2024	DKK	2024	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2025	DKK	2025	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2026	DKK	2026	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2027	DKK	2027	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2028	DKK	2028	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
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Denmark Pr 2050	DKK	2050	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2051	DKK	2051	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2052	DKK	2052	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2053	DKK	2053	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2054	DKK	2054	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2055	DKK	2055	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2056	DKK	2056	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2057	DKK	2057	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2058	DKK	2058	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2059	DKK	2059	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2060	DKK	2060	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2061	DKK	2061	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2062	DKK	2062	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2063	DKK	2063	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2064	DKK	2064	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
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Denmark Pr 2073	DKK	2073	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2074	DKK	2074	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
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Denmark Pr 2085	DKK	2085	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
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Denmark Pr 2087	DKK	2087	100.00	4.25	0.00	100.00
Denmark Pr 2088	DKK					

CAPITAL MARKETS

With \$15 Billion in Bonds Sold in '93, EIB Still Tops

By Mark Gilbert
Bloomberg Business News

LUXEMBOURG — A table in the office of Jean-Claude Bresson, the European Investment Bank's longest-serving lending department head, is littered with paperclips holdinglets embedded in clear plastic bricks, advertising some of the bank's bond issues. "I started collecting them three years ago," Mr. Bresson said. "But I had to give up — there were too many of them."

No wonder. In 1992 the EIB overtook the World Bank for the first time to become the most active Eurobond issuer in the market. And with some \$15 billion of new bonds sold last year — about \$1 billion more than its nearest competitor — the EIB remains the market's biggest client in 1993.

Mr. Bresson and the rest of the 20-strong borrowing team at the EIB are busier than ever, and likely to get even busier in the future. As the bankrupt industries of Eastern Europe line up at the European begging bowl, along with recession-hit western European companies, the EIB's lending department has moved into overdrive, and with it the agency's borrowing department.

Mr. Bresson, who is in charge of issues in the U.S., French, Eco, Italian and Spanish markets, has been at the bank for 22 years, longer than any of the other borrowing chief and twice as long as EIB's treasurer, Philippe Marcial.

Casually dressed in khaki slacks and a blue blouse, Mr. Bresson strenuously defends the EIB's borrowing strategy. The bank is often accused by bankers and investors of pricing expensive bonds into the market, and being more concerned with shaving basis points off its borrowing costs than offering investors bonds they will want to buy.

Mr. Bresson denies the bank is concerned solely with the cost of its money.

"It is not only the spread; we want genuine placement," Mr. Bresson insists. He doesn't always accept a new issue proposal from the bank that carries the deepest price.

If a bank proposes an issue at a yield Mr. Bresson and his colleagues feel is too low for investors, they will double check that the bank making the bid is confident it can find buyers at the indicated price.

If the bank convinces the EIB the issue goes to market, its performance in the secondary market is closely followed, however, and if the yield climbs, relative to the government bond it was priced against, the next time the same bank wants to lead an issue, "we will remember," Mr. Bresson said.

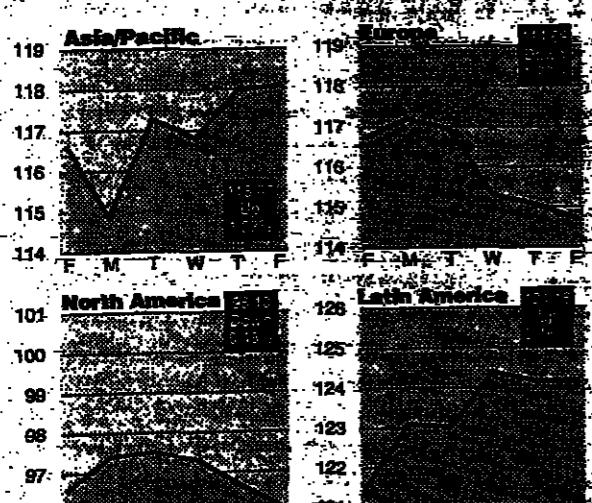
The EIB was founded under the 1958 Treaty of Rome, which

See BONDS, Page 2



THE TRIB INDEX

International Herald Tribune
World Stock Indexes
A composite of 200 international stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg
Business News
Week ending December 31, daily closings
Jan. 1992-100



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Copenhagen, Dublin, Frankfurt, Geneva, Hong Kong, Madrid, Mexico City, Milan, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Zurich, and London. The index is composed of 200 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the top 100 stocks are ranked.

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CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates		U.S. Dollars		Dollars	
Amsterdam	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Brussels	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Frankfurt	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
London	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Milan	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
New York	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Paris	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Tokyo	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Zurich	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659
Chatsworth, London, New York, and Zurich offices of Dresdner Bank	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Other Dollar Values	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Caracas	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Amsterdam	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Brussels	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Frankfurt	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
London	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Paris	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Tokyo	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Zurich	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659
Forward Rates	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Caracas	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Amsterdam	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Brussels	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Frankfurt	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
London	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Paris	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Tokyo	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
Zurich	1.659	1.659	0.607	0.607	1.659
1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659	1.659

Source: INBS Bank (Amsterdam), London, New York, and Zurich offices of Dresdner Bank (Caracas, Chatsworth, London, New York, and Zurich offices of Dresdner Bank) and the Bank of Central America (Brussels). (London) American Finance Press (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Bank of America (New York); Banque de France (Paris); Banque de Rothschild (Zurich). (Caracas) Central Bank of Venezuela. Other data from Reuters and AP.

China's Shifting Wall of Trade

Beijing Lowers Some Import Barriers, Adds Others

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China lowered some import barriers this weekend to meet Washington's New Year deadline for better market access, but it moved at the same time to set up others, the official press reported over the weekend.

On Saturday, China abolished quotas and import limits on 283 products, including coffee and civil aircraft, the People's Daily reported. It reduced quotas for 234 products, including fertilizers, lead and zinc, whose prices would have risen because of the float of its currency, the paper said.

In an October market access agreement between the United States and China, Beijing agreed to remove three-quarters of its non-tariff trade barriers within two years. Saturday was the first major deadline under this agreement.

But in contrast to these market-opening moves, Beijing also published a list of electronics and machinery products it will continue to protect, using quotas and compul-

sory bidding, the China Daily reported. The government is also set to curb duty-free car imports, it said on Sunday.

Officials told the paper the government would strengthen control over imports of 18 products on the quota list, including cars, motorcycles, video recorders, computers and air conditioners. All these products were already subject to quotas, officials said.

China also published a list of 171 products — including machinery used for textiles production, communications, and shipbuilding — that it will protect by insisting purchases be made using "international procedures" such as quotas and tariffs, according to a joint statement by the State Economic and Trade Commission and the foreign trade ministry.

Excessive imports of some consumer products would hurt the development of the relevant industries in China and hurt the country's industrial adjustment, the China Daily quoted officials as saying.

Chinese consumers, flush with cash from the nation's economic boom, have rushed to buy imported goods in recent months. Imports grew 27.8 percent in the first 11 months of 1993 from the same period last year, to reach \$83.95 billion, while exports rose only 6.2 percent, to \$76.25 billion.

Among the tariff cuts announced over the weekend were a reduction for small cars, from 150 percent to 110 percent, and for large cars, from 220 percent to 180 percent.

Despite this, imports of cars are expected to fall because of the effect of the yuan's float, a clampdown on smuggling and a possible end to duty-free car import privileges for foreign-funded firms, the China Daily quoted officials as saying.

The cuts in car tariffs will be on top of reductions effective Dec. 31 for products ranging from computers to gasoline, announced in November. That move reduced China's average tariff rate from 39.9 percent to 36.4 percent. (Bloomberg, AFP)

Unified Yuan Rate Gets Baptized in Fire of Market

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — The success or failure of China's abolition of official exchange controls will be decided by the currency markets on Monday, foreign venture managers said.

China scrapped its system of dual currency rates on Saturday to let the yuan be traded in line with market forces at 7.7 to the dollar, entailing a devaluation of 50 percent compared with the old official exchange rate of 5.8 yuan.

The move, announced by the official Xinhua news agency, marked the end of four decades of rate-setting by central planners.

The new level was set according to the average dollar price Friday at foreign exchange swap markets around the country, Xinhua quoted a central bank release as saying.

The central bank had announced the move on Wednesday, in a step seen as preparing the way to make the yuan fully and freely convertible, a goal viewed as years away, and to bring order into a confused financial system.

fused financial system. Under the measure, a dual system of exchange rates was scrapped and replaced by a unified exchange rate set in line with a managed

Certificate, should continue to be exchanged in banks at the official rate of 5.8 yuan to the dollar even though it is gradually to be withdrawn, according to a decree

They said they hoped the central bank would intervene to keep the yuan stable, as it has over the last three months.

In one positive sign, Beijing's black markets have quoted the yuan at a level of 8.6, a fraction stronger than the floating rate and the same price that has been quoted since the float was announced on Wednesday.

Most brokers had not expected the float to occur before the National Foreign Exchange Center opened later this month. This center is connected to currency markets throughout China.

It is also not clear which banks will be allowed to trade on the market and what will happen to the nation's 100-odd swap markets, in which banks and businesses previously swapped hard currency for yuan, they said. Companies are supposed to change money at banks under the new system.

Wild swings could aggravate China's gaping trade deficit and inflation, which hit 14.5 percent this year. Western diplomats say. (Bloomberg, AFP)

published in the People's Daily.

This was a great relief for foreign business executives, who hold thousands of certificates.

"I think the most important day is Monday because the government said it would give us a rate of 8.7, but in reality it could be a lot more volatile," said Udo Heine, manager of the Palace Hotel.

Traders at China's largest currency market in Shanghai expected lively trading on Monday.

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Traders at China's largest currency market in

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A U.S. Passage to India

'Impressive Market' Lures Big Firms

By John Ward Anderson

Washington Post Service

NEW DELHI — McDonald's, the restaurant chain that has fed the world 95 billion hamburgers, is coming to India, the country where cows are sacred. It would not appear to be a match made in heaven, but officials of the fast-food giant say they are committed to opening 200 restaurants here within the next two years for the same reason that hundreds of other U.S. businesses are flocking to India: They simply can't resist.

"There is an educated, urban middle class that is larger than the population of the entire United States," said Brad Trask, a spokesman for McDonald's Corp. "That's a very impressive market."

Some of the biggest and best-known companies in the United States have reached the same conclusion in the wake of a revolutionary economic reform drive launched two years ago by the government of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

The prospects of getting an early foothold in newly liberalized India — with the world's fifth-largest economy and a middle class number as many as 250 million people — is so enticing that U.S. companies have invested more here in the last year than in the entire previous 45 years of India's independence combined.

International Business Machines Corp., Walt Disney Co., Raytheon Co., AT&T, Morgan Stanley & Co. and San Lee Corp. are examples of other U.S. companies that recently have started operations here or announced their intentions to do so in the near future.

Hundreds of other companies, many of them small and medium-sized, also are testing the waters.

"It is without parallel," said Amit Sharma, head of Motorola Inc. for Central and South Asia.

Prospects of getting a foothold in the newly liberalized Indian market have attracted major U.S. companies.

largest untapped markets that exists today."

The American invasion would have been unthinkable just a few years ago, when India was wedded to self-sufficiency and a Soviet-style economy. In fact, the government of Indira Gandhi, then the prime minister, expelled IBM and Coca-Cola from India in the early 1970s, and the country was identified as an enemy of multinational businesses for years.

The current government is trying to erase those memories with ambitious economic reforms designed to attract foreign capital and unleash the potential of the country's huge labor pool.

McDonald's is expected to serve chicken burgers. But this does not impress some groups that are trying to keep out the company's golden arches.

Mr. Trask, the company's spokesman, said that while "our statement that we had no intention of selling beef in India" cleared up a lot of questions, we'd be naive not to expect something" in the way of a protest.

Indian and U.S. companies are closely linking in joint ventures that give Indian companies a recognizable brand name, foreign capital, access to advanced

technology and a doorway to international markets. Americans, on the other hand, get access to cheap, English-speaking and often well-educated labor, and they get a partner that knows how India works.

"Something has gotten the attention of American business, and it's there," said a high-ranking U.S. diplomat, noting that U.S. exports to India were up 37 percent this year over last, while imports from India to the United States rose 22 percent, boosting total trade between the countries to about \$7 trillion a year.

However, given the tremendous challenges India faces, including its repeated failure to live up to its economic potential and the occasional policy flip-flops of its leaders, some analysts think the dream of India becoming an Asian tiger is far-fetched.

"India has a nasty habit of getting to the brink of success, to the threshold, and not making it," said Motorola's Mr. Sharma.

Despite the drawbacks, U.S. companies with a long-term perspective are increasingly willing to take the risk of opening up shop in India.

For McDonald's, the challenges are not just financial, but cultural and religious. Indians, taught from childhood that "the cow is your mother," so revered the animals that there are 450 million head of cattle roaming the streets and countryside here, according to Kamal Nath, India's environmental minister.

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Bonds Cap Year With a Dive

Robust U.S. Economy Gives Market a Chill

Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK — U.S. Treasury bonds plunged late last week as investors concluded that signs of a spending recovery mean yields are heading up next year.

"I've kind of got some concern about rates," said Robert David-

son, manager of the Van Kampen Merritt U.S. Government Fund.

"This month and last month we've had a preponderance of strong numbers for the economy," said Joseph Liro, chief economist at S.G. Warburg & Co. That means bond yields will hit 6.75 percent, and possibly 7 percent, by the end of June, Mr. Liro said.

Mr. Liro is forecasting that the economy gained 285,000 jobs in December, and will gain more than 200,000 in each of the first three months of 1994. The December jobs report is due Jan. 7.

The housing figures are especially good news for the economy, said Michael Strauss, chief economist at Yamaichi International (America).

Such indicators suggested that

bond yields could make a run at 7 percent in six months, Mr. David-

son said.

The benchmark 30-year bond plunged on Friday by 1 1/8 points, to close at 98 7/8. The yield was 6.33 percent, up from 6.25 percent, and the highest closing yield since Nov. 22. Yields last rose this much in a day on Nov. 19.

The record low yield is 5.77 percent, set on Oct. 15.

I think employment growth is going to be strong in the first half of 1994," said Joseph Liro, chief economist at S.G. Warburg & Co. That means bond yields will hit 6.75 percent, and possibly 7 percent, by the end of June, Mr. Liro said.

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Home resales and new-home sales in November are running at a combined annual rate of 5.07 million, the fastest rate on record.

"We are still going to get a tremendous stimulus from the housing sector this quarter and next quarter," said Mr. Strauss.

Home sales now mean more spending on appliances and furnishings about six to nine months from now, he added.

The Purchasing Management Association of Chicago said its December index of manufacturing conditions fell to 6.6 from 6.53 in November. The October reading was 5.7. The index is well above 50, the threshold that divides expansion from contraction in manufac-

turing.

The manufacturing sector is one of the strongest sectors of the economy," Mr. Strauss said.

The two-year note fell 6/32, to 99 18/32, to post a yield of 4.53 percent. The 10-year note fell 5/32, to 99 23/32, yielding 5.75 percent.

SHORT COVER

Investors Spike Rothmans Merger

KUALA LUMPUR (Reuters) — A spokesman for a major Malaysian shareholder said Sunday that his company had rejected a proposed merger of Rothmans International's Asian operations because it would lead to an outflow of investment from Malaysia.

The shareholder, Permodian Nasional Bhd, a state investment house, and other major stockholders, Rothmans' Malaysian joint venture, spikely the deal at an emergency shareholders' meeting Friday.

In February, the London-based tobacco group announced its plan to fuse its 50 percent-owned subsidiaries in Malaysia and Singapore. "We are very disappointed," said Anthony Jones, Rothmans' Malaysia managing director. "We have to consider other options." But, he added, "The deal will be less attractive without Malaysia."

MCI Plans to Take On Local Calls

WASHINGTON (Combined Dispatches) — MCI Communications Corp. is planning to enter the local phone business now monopolized by regional carriers, a move that could substantially reduce the \$5 billion a year MCI pays to regional Bell operating companies to complete its customers' telephone calls.

Washington-based MCI expects to invest as much as \$1.5 billion to build local phone connections that would permit business and residential customers to bypass local phone company lines, sources close to the company said.

Initially, such networks would enable callers to connect directly to long-distance carriers such as MCI and AT&T without having to go through the local phone company. Eventually, MCI's networks could be adapted to local service in direct competition for regional Bell companies and others that hold a monopoly over local phone service.

(WP, Bloomberg)

America West Airlines Ousts Chief

NEW YORK (NYT) — The president and chief executive of America West Airlines, Michael J. Conway, has been ousted, ending a long-simmering personal conflict with the chairman that apparently intensified over the bankrupt airline's most recent plan to right itself.

Mr. Conway has been replaced as president by A. Maurice Myers, president and chief executive of Aloha Airlines, the company announced. Mr. Myers was also named chief operating officer. William A. Franke, America West's chairman, took over the chief executive's post.

The free-wheeling Mr. Conway, a founder of America West in 1983, and the more reserved Mr. Franke have clashed often since Mr. Franke arrived in 1992. Mr. Franke had no previous airline experience, but has shown himself to be a decisive and swift-acting executive at companies in several industries.

Mitsubishi to Build Saudi Tankers

MANAMA, Bahrain (Reuters) — Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries has clinched a \$400 million deal to build five crude-oil supertankers for the National Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia, the Saudi company's general manager, Mohammad Suleiman Jaroba, announced.

Mitsubishi will start building the 300,000-ton tankers each this year.

Mr. Jaroba said, and will start delivery in 1996.

He said the tankers would make the company the second biggest in Saudi Arabia after Vela International Marine, a wholly owned subsidiary of the giant state-owned oil company Saudi Aramco.

Joint Effort for a Pushbutton Car

TOKYO (UPI) — Toyota Motor Corp. of Japan plans to join forces with General Motor Corp. of the United States and Volkswagen AG of Germany to jointly develop a system for driving an automobile by simply pushing down on a key, the conservative daily Sankei Shimbun reported.

Each of the three companies is its country's biggest automobile manufacturer. They will form a joint research team in the second half of the 1990s, the Sankei Shimbun said. Toyota already has cooperative ties with GM and VW in production and sales.

With the development of the new automatic car, Toyota hopes to create a completely new market, the newspaper said.

Withdrawals Jump at Spanish Bank

MADRID (AFP) — Net withdrawals from Banesto, the private bank placed under Bank of Spain control last Wednesday, totaled more than 50 billion pesetas (\$357 million) on Wednesday and Thursday, a bank spokesman said over the weekend.

But, he added, "The demand was satisfied without difficulty by the establishment and without having to resort to funds from the Spanish central bank."

The Bank of Spain governor, Luis Angel Rojo, has said that 500 billion pesetas are urgently needed for the reorganization of Banesto, one of Spain's five largest banks. He said Banesto's troubles to "the sharp expansion of its credit sector between 1989 and 1991 just as the recession in the world economy was beginning."

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Eisner Says Park Could Close

New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — In the strongest indication yet that Euro Disney is in danger of closing, Michael Eisner, the chairman of Walt Disney Co., has told a news magazine in France that the struggling theme park could shut down if he failed to reach an agreement with its creditor banks on a financial rescue.

An article published Friday in the French news magazine *Le Point* quoted Mr. Eisner as saying that Euro Disney must reach an agreement with its banks and investors on a solution to the park's financial crisis by March 31.

"If the engine of an airplane falls out in full flight, what are the options?" Mr. Eisner said in the article. "Anything is possible today, including closure."

In Russia, Nothing Succeeds Like Selling

By Alex Kacherov
Washington Post Service

The magazine said Mr. Eisner made the comments two weeks ago. Still, the article Friday was the second published report in a week in which the Disney chief had publicly criticized the performance of the company's unprofitable Euro Disney venture.

Analysts have said Euro Disney would need a cash infusion of \$1.5 billion to give it a chance of paying down its debt of \$3.75 billion.

A possibility under review is that part of Euro Disney's debt could be converted into stock, of which Mr. Eisner would assume \$750 million if the banks came up with the balance, the analysts said. But so far the banks are reluctant to accept such a plan until they have evidence that the performance of the theme park will improve.

Virginia Braces for Its Disney Orlando Experience Suggests Vast Changes

By Michelle Singletary
Washington Post Service

ORLANDO, Florida — The huge, three-dimensional billboards lining the congested highways near Walt Disney World here offer a portrait of how the future may look for the serene, rolling countryside in northern Virginia.

Like Haymarket, Virginia, where Walt Disney Co. plans to open a theme park in 1998, the Orlando area once had a rural character. Today many orange groves and grazing pastures have been supplanted by dozens of businesses that flowed into the Orlando region in Disney's wake. Crowding Highway 192 and International Drive are smaller theme parks, hotels, restaurants, outlet stores, gift shops (one in the shape of a giant orange) and gasoline stations.

In addition there are: Kart World (a go-cart park), Bargain World (discount T-shirts), Denim World (cheap jeans), Cartoon World (low-priced Disney souvenirs), Flea World (world's biggest flea market), as well as Sea World, a major theme park.

Much the same could be in store for northern Virginia, according to many people living and working in the Orlando area. They counsel that Prince William County, where Disney plans an American history theme park called Disney's America, should brace itself for a ride that may be lucrative, but also bumpy and exasperating.

In interviews public officials, residents, housing advocates and environmentalists in central Florida agreed that Disney World had transformed the area into one of the world's major vacation spots, creating thousands of jobs.

But the construction of Disney World also touched off a surge of

commercial development that has overrun the area and created permanent headaches for the community. One is overcrowded roads, evident to any visitor. Another is a shortage of moderately priced apartments and houses for service workers employed at Disney World and surrounding businesses.

"I think people will see their life-style change forever, but they should be glad it's Disney," said

Virginia should brace itself for a lucrative but bumpy ride.

Orange County Commissioner Fran Pignone, referring to the view of many officials that Disney puts a lot of money and energy into masking its projects well.

Walt Disney World, on 32,000 acres here, is much larger than the projected size of Disney's America: a 100-acre park on a 3,000-acre site. But the same sorts of debates that arose in Orlando — over the quality of life and the cost of development — have already begun in Prince William County.

Unlike Walt Disney World, the Prince William park is not being designed as a "destination resort." Instead, the park is seen as a secondary target for tourists, aimed at attracting one-day visitors.

But it has proved difficult in the past to forecast a Disney park's draw. Early projections for the Florida park were for 8 to 12 million visitors a year, whereas 26 million tourists now stream into Orlando.

As the employment base increased in central Florida so did

the need for schools. In Orange County, the school system is so overcrowded that temporary classrooms have gone up at almost all the 114 schools.

In Prince William County, officials have said, the company will not be seeking a special legal status from the legislature to govern its park as it did in Florida, where the company got legislation passed in 1967 creating the Reedy Creek Improvement District.

This was the biggest perk Disney won from Florida. It is a special district in which the company does not face the normal zoning and building review process that developers usually endure. The special taxing district also allows the company to pay for, and control, its own roads, utilities, fire and police.

But the company pays property taxes just like any other landowner. Disney is by far the largest taxpayer in metropolitan Orlando, paying \$82 million in taxes in 1993, including \$30 million it paid to its own quasi-government in the Reedy Creek district.

In Orlando, the economic benefits brought by Disney have been enormous. Gross sales in the region were \$3.2 billion in 1970, the year before Disney opened. By 1992, gross sales reached \$46.8 billion.

Disney is the area's largest employer — its employees employ about 36,000 "cast members," as the company calls its workers. That compares with Disney's original estimate that it would employ 25,000.

To Disney's credit, it warned public officials in Orlando that other businesses would come after it.

As in Prince William, Walt Disney purchased a large tract of land to provide a buffer between its world and the other businesses and tourist attractions.

That promise resonates with

older, inefficient factories also have been plagued by a precipitous decline in orders, and the resulting drop in production — 18 percent in 1992, 15 percent in 1993 — has become a battle cry of President Boris N. Yeltsin's harshest critics.

Even within the government, some officials are now arguing for greater investment in production — especially after the strong showing of Mr. Yeltsin's nationalist and Communist opponents in the Dec. 12 parliamentary elections.

The theme of next year's policies will be investment, stopping industrial decline and supporting agriculture, "the official newspaper of the Russian government, *Rosiskiye Vesti*, said Saturday.

That promise resonates with

many Russians, who still regard the buying and selling of goods with special distaste even as they envy those who are making a killing from it. "Speculation," as the Communists called it, was illegal until Mikhail S. Gorbachev's *perestroika* unshackled the old Soviet command economy.

Moreover, the trading boom is contributing to a split in society between haves and have-nots. In a report released last week, the government said the gap between Russia's rich and poor had widened over the past year, with incomes of the wealthiest 10 percent of the population rising to 10 times those of the poorest 10 percent.

Nonetheless, many economists argue that the shift from inefficient production of goods no one wants to buying and selling consumer

items that people crave is exactly the right medicine for the economy.

"The market economy works in Russia," said Yevgeni Yasin, a leading economist. "Capital flows to places where profits are highest. It is absolutely natural."

He added: "As long as the market for trading is not saturated, all efforts will be aimed at buying and selling. Loud shouts that we must invest in production rather than commerce are not justified."

Mr. Yeremin's experience is instructive. Today, about 100 people work for his trading firm, called Kourma. Having abandoned the lumber mill, his main business now is buying and selling video and audio equipment, footwear and canned food. The company rents an expensive office in downtown Moscow, where it negotiates daily

with merchandise dealers and foreign middlemen.

"Production is highly unprofitable," Mr. Yeremin said. "Even if I land the cheapest credit from a bank at an interest rate of, say, 160 percent, to build a workshop like the one I had, I need at least \$300,000, and my debt will run to \$780,000. And I won't be able to repay it even in three years because this sum does not take into account wages for workers and other expenses."

Access to loans and credits from Russia's new commercial banks is difficult indeed for aspiring business leaders. Andrei Kopylov, an economist at Moscow's Keybank, acknowledged that his bank gave credit only "to people we know personally and who have been our clients for at least six months."

But despite the obstacles, a number of skillful managers who started building their businesses in the early days of perestroika are now reaping the profits of that foresight.

Mr. Yasin, the economist, said

"Scarce credit was choking off new

small- and medium-sized business

and posing a major obstacle to

economic growth in Russia.

But despite the obstacles, a number

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MONDAY SPORTS

SIDELINES

Milan Wins Despite Papin's Ejection

ROME (Reuters) — Jean-Pierre Papin was ejected from the game Sunday but his AC Milan soccer team beat Reggiana, 1-0, anyway, increasing its lead in the Italian first division.

Marcel Desailly's 28th-minute goal, his first since joining Milan from Olympique Marseille in November, proved sufficient for the champions to end Reggiana's unbeaten home record. Papin was sent off after appearing to elbow an opponent in the 37th minute.

Milan travels to struggle Udinese on Thursday but is already assured of finishing the first half of the 34-match campaign on top of the table as it has done in its previous two championship-winning seasons.

Banesto Cycling Team Stays Alive

PARIS (AFP) — The Banesto cycling team of Miguel Indurain, the three-time Tour de France winner, will stay alive for at least another two years despite the Spanish team's problems, its manager said.

The team, based in Madrid, Echavarría, said the sponsor, the troubled bank Banco Espanol de Credito, or Banesto, would continue its involvement, and all contracts and bridging commitments would be honored.

The Banesto team, which also has Pedro Delgado of Spain and Jean-François Bernard of France, will keep all 26 riders.

Colombian Goalkeeper to Be Freed

BOGOTA (Combined Dispatches) — René Higuita, the star goalkeeper of Colombia's national soccer team, is to be released from jail on Monday because the time limit for receiving charges against him in a kidnapping case had expired.

The deputy prosecutor general, Francisco Jose Sintura, said he had ordered the player's release from Bogota's Modelo jail because no formal accusation had been made within the 120-day limit set by a new law.

Higuita, 27, was detained on June 4 and accused of receiving a \$64,000 payoff for helping negotiate the payment of a \$350,000 ransom for a girl in Medellin who was allegedly kidnapped on the orders of the late Medellin drug cartel boss Pablo Escobar Gaviria. Higuita denied any wrongdoing. The goalkeeper must pay bail of about \$10,000 to secure his release and could still face criminal proceedings.

(Reuters)

Tomba Checks Out the Movie Biz

ROME (Reuters) — The Italian skier, Alberto Tomba, in an interview published Sunday, suggested that his glimmering career was drawing toward a close.

"There's not a long future for me in skiing," Tomba, 27, told the Gazzetta dello Sport in the interview. "I don't imagine I'll still be on the World Cup circuit when I reach my 30s."

The flamboyant Italian, who next month bids to become the first athlete to win a total of four Alpine skiing Olympic golds, nurtures dreams of stardom in the movie world. "I'm beginning to think about my future beyond the world of sport," he said. "I've had offers from an agency in Hollywood." Tomba, a slalom specialist, is third in the overall World Cup standings, despite not slaming the downhill or the super-G.

For the Record

Alexander Popov of Russia set a 100-meter freestyle world record of 47.83 seconds at the Hong Kong World Cup meet. (Reuters)

Claude Molan was named to France's 1994 Davis Cup squad. The country's top male tennis player had been left out this year because of what organizers said his excessive demands. (Reuters)

Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine aggravated a knee injury in tennis' Hopman Cup, and may miss the Australian Open.

(Reuters)

Quotable

Headline in The Milwaukee Journal after the Green Bay Packers clinched a National Football League playoff berth for the first time in a nonstrike season since 1972: "After all those years in the cold, the words can now be spoken: Pack is back."

• Robby Bowden, Florida State football coach: "You've got to pay the players some money. Everybody makes money off the players and everybody makes money of some money the players."

NASDAQ/NATIONAL MARKET

OTC Composite, Standard & Poor's listed Friday, Dec. 30

(Continued)

Sales in 100s High Low Close Chg.

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MONDAY SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE					
Atlantic Division		Central Division		Western Division	
W	L	Pct	GS		
New York	18	7	.729	—	
Orlando	16	12	.571	4	
Boston	12	17	.400	9	
New Jersey	11	16	.407	9	
Philadelphia	10	17	.370	9	
Washington	8	19	.296	11½	
Atlanta	17	7	.721	—	
Chicago	18	9	.657	10	
Charlotte	14	12	.571	4	
Indians	10	12	.455	4½	
Indiana	10	16	.385	9	
Detroit	8	19	.296	11½	
Milwaukee	2	24	.077	21	
Seattle	21	8	.730	—	
Phoenix	21	5	.800	—	
Portland	17	11	.567	5	
Golden State	14	13	.519	5½	
Los Angeles	9	19	.291	14½	
LA Lakers	9	19	.221	14½	
Sacramento	8	19	.276	15	
Washington	24	26	.500	—	
New York	24	26	.500	—	
Atlanta	24	26	.500	—	
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MONDAY

SPORTS

Notre Dame Rallies to Victory, but Florida State Finishes No. 1

Holtz Argues for Irish, Who Beat Texas A&M

By Dave Sell

Washington Post Service

DALLAS — Kevin Pendergast kicked a 31-yard field goal with 2:27 left in the fourth quarter to give Notre Dame a 24-21 victory over Texas A&M in the Cotton Bowl, keeping the Fighting Irish's bittersweet dream alive for a few more hours before it died.

The crowd of 63,555 saw the Irish (11-5) struggle Saturday against the seventh-ranked Aggies but eventually right themselves in their quest for a ninth national championship.

The quest proved vain, however, when hours later Florida State beat Nebraska to improve to 12-1 and claim its first national college football crown.

Notre Dame entered the game ranked fourth in the Associated Press poll. On Nov. 13, however, the Irish had defeated Florida State in South Bend, Indiana, and with the No. 2 and 3 teams, Nebraska and West Virginia, losing on New Year's Day, the head-to-head victory formed the core of Notre Dame's ultimately doomed claim to the championship.

Notre Dame's coach, Lou Holtz, mounted the campaign stump against Florida State in his post-game news conference.

Holtz pointed to 1989, when his team was in the same situation Florida State is now. Notre Dame finished 12-1 and Miami 11-1, but Miami won the national championship because it beat Notre Dame.

"I think when you talk about a national championship, we're not necessarily talking about the best team," Holtz said, getting warmed up. "Who is the best team? The way we do it — historically or logically — is to look at who went undefeated. If two teams went undefeated, then you look at who played the tougher schedule. BYU went undefeated a couple years ago — it was 1984 — and won the national championship."

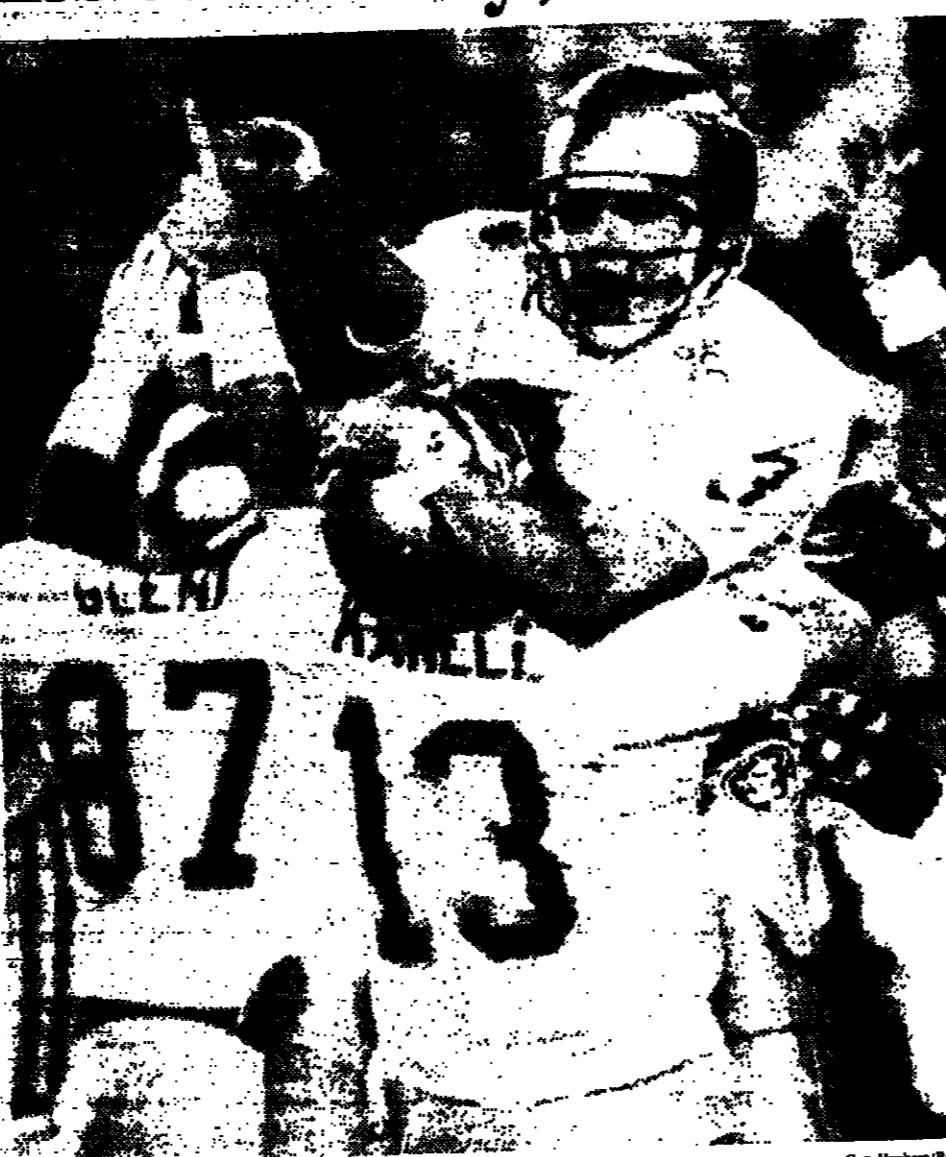
"But, if everybody has a loss, the NFL, every conference — and in 1989, the determining factor is the number one seed that was held to head-to-head competition," Holtz added.

In 1989, Notre Dame was 12-1. We played more bowl games. We played in the Sugar Bowl. We played six times in the bowl. We were No. 1," Holtz said.

With Coach Steve Spurrier signaling in his own play, the highly-ranked Gators methodically picked apart the over-matched Irish offense to over-

whelm No. 3 West Virginia, 41-7. Saturday's game was the 12th time the Gators had beaten West Virginia, and the 13th time they had beaten them. 1986 Miami worked out a Sugar Bowl and beat them. "They beat them for 105 yards and three short touchdowns, all set up by Jerry Johnson and [Mike] Wright," Wright said. "It's a tremendous 52-yard interception return for the Gators (11-2), who won the game for the first time."

In Sugar, Florida Mars West Virginia's Unbeaten Season



Florida State kicker Scott Bentley thought the Seminoles were No. 1 after his field goal with 21 seconds left beat Nebraska, 18-16, in the Orange Bowl, and hours later, the polls agreed with him.

Last-Gasp Field Goal Lifts Seminoles

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Florida State and Coach Bobby Bowden won their first national championship Sunday, finishing No. 1 in the Associated Press college football poll after beating Nebraska, 18-16, in the Orange Bowl.

The Seminoles, who came close to winning the title the last six seasons, retained their top ranking when their kicker, Scott Bentley, hit a 22-yard field goal with 21 seconds left Saturday night. Then Nebraska's Byron Bennett missed a 45-yard 3-point attempt on the final play.

Florida State (12-1) easily beat Notre Dame (11-1) for the title even though the Fighting Irish handed the Seminoles their only defeat, 31-24, on Nov. 13.

The Seminoles received 46 of 62 first-place votes in voting by a nationwide panel of writers and broadcasters. Notre Dame, which moved up to No. 2 from No. 4, got 12 first-place votes.

Florida State also won the USA Today-CNN coaches' championship. The Seminoles received 36 first-place votes in that poll, 11 more than Notre Dame.

Bowden said Florida State deserved the national title despite its loss to Notre Dame.

"You need to take the champion on the basis of the season, not one game," he said. "And we didn't lose to the No. 16 team at home," Boston College, as the Irish did the week after beating Florida State.

Ken Denlinger of *The Washington Post* reported from Miami:

Bentley, a freshman who was re-

cked out for just such a moment, kicked his fourth field goal of the year to give Florida State its victory over previously unbeaten and No. 2 Nebraska before an Orange Bowl record crowd of 81,536.

The Top 25

The teams in the final 1993 AP coaches' football poll, with third-place votes, previous national records, and points based on 35 points a win, 14 points a tie, and one point for a 20th-place vote, and previous rankings:

	Ranking	Points	Pts
1. Florida St. (46)	12-1	1,225	1
2. Notre Dame (11)	11-1	1,128	4
3. Boston College (12)	11-1	1,118	11
4. Auburn (4)	11-3	1,075	3
5. Florida	11-2	1,070	8
6. Wisconsin	12-0	1,065	10
7. Virginia	11-2	1,050	3
8. Penn St.	10-2	1,074	13
9. Texas A&M	10-2	1,045	7
10. Arizona	12-0	1,035	16
11. Florida St.	10-1	971	6
12. Tennessee	9-3	817	15
13. Boston College	9-3	817	15
14. Alabama	9-3	803	10
15. Colorado	9-3	801	17
16. UCLA	9-3	801	23
17. South Carolina	10-3	422	12
18. Kansas St.	9-3	422	28
19. Michigan	8-4	397	23
20. Virginia Tech	9-3	394	24
21. Clemson	9-3	394	24
22. Mississippi	9-3	394	24
23. California	9-3	376	24

Fans and players streamed onto the field but were ordered off and a second put back. A faint strong wind seemed to die a bit and then pick up as Bennett stepped into the ball. There was little doubt the ball would be too far left when it got airborne.

Bowden second-guessed himself and his team for gaffes near the end. The first was for not letting the clock run to the final seconds before sending Bentley out.

"It's hard to believe we won the game," Bowden said. "Every time I looked up somebody else was winning it."

Indeed, Nebraska took the lead on Bennett's 27-yard field goal with 69 seconds left.

The Seminoles entered the game as the highest-scoring team in the country, averaging more than 43 points. But they were kept without a touchdown in the first half, the first time this had happened since the Miami game of Oct. 19, 1992.

Nebraska took a 7-3 lead midway through the second quarter.

Frazier threw behind wideout Chester Johnson over the middle and Seminoles strong safety Devin Bush tipped it. Instead of falling to the ground, the ball bounded to Cornhuskers split end Roger Baul several yards upfield and he scooted into the end zone for a 34-yard touchdown.

Charlie Ward and the Florida State offense were kept off balance most of the second quarter by the Cornhuskers. But Ward also threw a few pro-quality passes, one of which went 22 yards to split end Kev McCory and helped set up the field goal that brought Florida State to within 7-6 at halftime.

On the first series of the second half, Ward led a 67-yard drive that ended with William Floyd's dive from the 1 that gave the Seminoles a 12-7 lead.

Two Ward passes gave Florida State a first down at the Nebraska 45. Ward then showed his fastball again with a 41-yard across-the-field pass that flanker Kevin Knox caught over his shoulder.

Two plays later, Floyd dived into the end zone. Nebraska argued he fumbled, but the officials ruled he'd gotten into the end zone first. Surprisingly, Florida State went for two points on the conversion, and Ward's pass was batted down.

The Seminoles increased their lead to 15-7 on a 35-yard field goal into a strong wind with 3:06 left in the third quarter.

Frazier completed passes of 15 and 16 yards to Dixon and reserve fullback Lawrence Phillips ran twice for 29, including the final 13 for the touchdown that brought the Cornhuskers to within 15-13.

They know that. I knew that because I kept helping them up. But what I couldn't understand was why they kept punching me in the stomach."

Rhett scored his second touchdown on a two-yard run early in the third period, and West Virginia's fumble on the ensuing kickoff led to a one-yard run by Rheit for a 35-7 lead with 8:58 left in the quarter.

Rhett scored a 10-yard lead with 7:47 left in the third period, and West Virginia's fumble on the ensuing kickoff led to a one-yard run by Rheit for a 35-7 lead with 8:58 left in the quarter.

Rhett scored his second touchdown on a two-yard run early in the third period, and West Virginia's fumble on the ensuing kickoff led to a one-yard run by Rheit for a 35-7 lead with 8:58 left in the quarter.

Rhett scored his second touchdown on a two-yard run early in the third period, and West Virginia's fumble on the ensuing kickoff led to a one-yard run by Rheit for a 35-7 lead with 8:58 left in the quarter.

"It was a lot easier to run on them," Rhett said. "I felt like they couldn't stop me. I was surprised at how small they were."

"They seemed to get fatigued as we kept passing," he added. "I don't think they were in that good of shape, and I'm sure

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Hedging Their Bets Through the Stars

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — If even the news pundits are less inclined right now to plunge into predictions for 1994 than to hash over what went so wrong in 1992, no one can blame France's astrologers for hedging with equal skill. Only in good times do people want to read about future calamities and trials.

This year the 34,000 astrologers of France counsel patience and prudence not only for their clients but apparently for themselves. The famous Madame Soleil

MARY BLUME

writes in *France-Dimanche* that she has "relentlessly studied the charts and palpated the planets to learn their positions and trajectories." And no doubt she has, but with what pawky results. She does say that those born under the sign of Aries the ram will know nothing but love and joy in March and April, but presumably only with other rams since other signs have either vague promises (Taurus: "1994 will be full of surprises") or other concerns (Gemini's March will be rough and the springtime too agitated to give a thought to amorous rams).

Some magazines evade the issue with articles not strictly connected to the stars. "Holiday Test: Are You a Good Host?" asks the cover of *Vous et Votre Avenir*, although by now most readers only want to face that question through an iceberg's veil.

"Astrology and Depression: A Remedy" claims *Horo Mag*, but the article, after warning about Neptune's effect on the ego, admits that astrology cannot cure depression but only warn of its approach.

Approach? It's already here on a worldwide scale, with unemployment, warfare, death and destruction at unforeseen levels. No one over the age of 8 can face 1994 with equanimity and no longer can French astrologers comfortably predict disasters in distant lands because CNN will bring them into every living room.

Things are at such a pass that no astrologer in his or her right mind would hazard a prediction on Britain's royal family, although Monique's princely one continues to tickle the planets ever so slightly (Princess Caroline and Vincent Lindorff will discreetly join their destinies and Princess Stéphanie will have another baby. No news of Prince Albert.)

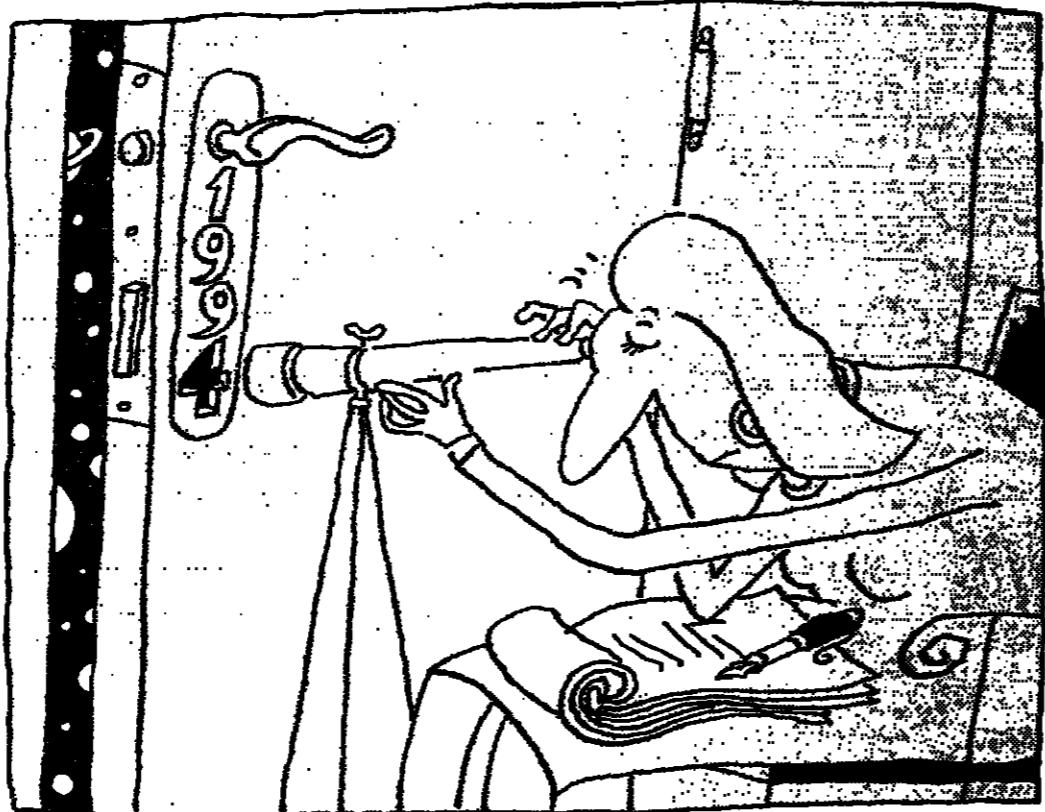
For ordinary people, here is what *Astres* magazine has to say about today, Jan. 3. Aries should stop feeling guilty at work. Taurus will have creative ideas. Cancer the crab wants to come out of its shell. An unexpected sum of money will put Leo in a good mood. Virgo should be better by predicting unspecified natural catastrophes in unidentified places in late winter. No one sees peace in the former Yugoslavia.

French real estate and the stock market will do better in 1994, says Jean Caro, seeing his country as headed toward the end of a metaphorical tunnel (none of the astrologers is so foolish as to hazard a guess on whether the real tunnel, under the Channel, will open in May as planned).

European astrology has been traced to Mesopotamia.

The Greeks only started believing in it when their civilizations was in decline; the practical Romans fed it for utility.

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Nicole Asbury

adds, that in 1994 people will take better care of each other, but Jupiter will put the kibosh on that.

What does all this mean to François Mitterrand? Well, writes Bernadette Aubin, he will keep his job and do better in public opinion polls, but few of her colleagues agree.

Carlo di Berghe confides that Helmut Kohl faces problems in the coming German election and adds that Americans will have difficulty in understanding President Clinton's foreign policy. Boris Yeltsin is in for a rough ride, the seers say, and Madame Benetra in *Astres* hedges her bets by predicting unspecified natural catastrophes in unidentified places in late winter. No one sees peace in the former Yugoslavia.

French real estate and the stock market will do better in 1994, says Jean Caro, seeing his country as headed toward the end of a metaphorical tunnel (none of the astrologers is so foolish as to hazard a guess on whether the real tunnel, under the Channel, will open in May as planned).

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Kepler practiced astrology, so did Galileo although he had little aptitude (a horoscope he drew up predicted long life for his patron who died shortly after receiving it).

In the 18th century, Newton having made the universe into a machine that worked, astrology was not needed but survived at the popular level. In the 19th century, with the swing away from the rationalistic universe, it thrived again.

In our own times, everyone knows astrology is nonsense and everyone knows his or her own birth sign. The Nazis banned astrologers, the British had an official government astrologer in World War II. Animals, plants, historical periods and cities have been given astrological signs. The U.S.A. is under Gemini, Portugal is Pisces, Jerusalem and Paris are Virgo, Hamburg Aquarius, London Gemini.

In Paris (Virgo is earthy, mutable, sharp-tongued and keen-eyed) there are more than 6,000 astrologers and they thrive in hard times. Although they need not fear unemployment, something in the orbs, cusps, aspects and trines has told them to cut their fees. Maria Gadire, for example, whose advertisement says she foretold trouble for Michael Jackson, floods in southern France and the deaths of Garbo and Arletty (age 84 and 94, respectively), is offering a 50 percent reduction to clients by correspondence. For 350 francs (about \$60), credit cards accepted, the customer not only gets a personalized chart but a magnetized object to attract good luck throughout 1994.

Mea Culpa: A Clean Slate for '94

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Experts who wallow in the admission of error erode the credibility of their manhood. But in a doubt-defying feat of clay, let me rid my conscience of the most egregious of my last year's language gaffes in both my language columns and my political essays, so as to start the year with a clean slate. (*Thereby* to be better than *so as to*, but for some reason *thereby* has acquired an overly formal connotation, like *albeit*.)

When President Clinton spoke of "people that are different than we are," I popped him lightly on the use of *different than*, which is not as strong a differentiation as *from*, but then went on to suggest fixing the end with "people who are different from us."

Lyle W. Sparks of Chicago thought that was an overuse of the reflexive *ourselves*. "Examples of the proper use of the emphatic or reflexive *ourselves*," he writes, are "We ourselves have committed grammatical error" and "For the post of language guru, we nominate ourselves."

To be correct and direct, the president and I should use "people who are different from us."

Whatever happened to *Burns-Shave*? I asked in one of my nostalgic moods. "For that matter, whatever happened to *Burns*?" George Meredith of Red Bank, New Jersey, wondered. "Whatever the difference between *whatever* and *what ever*, what ever happened to people who knew the difference? All gone to Myanmar?" That's the new name of Burma, adopted in June 1989. I just checked with the spokesman for Myanmar, who says, "Burma" was the name given to the country by British colonialists in 1885. The Burmese make up 85 percent of the population, but there are 135 nationalities in our country, and the name "Myanmar" represents everyone, not just the Burmese."

On whatever, both Merriam-Webster and Webster's New World Dictionaries report that one word fits all, but it seems to me that Meredith has a point: when used in a question, the interrogative pronoun and intensifier should be two words, *what ever*. The meaning is wholly different from the subjective *whatever*, as in "whatever name the dictator of Burma prefers"; whatever the dictionaries say, use the single word in its additional sense of "no matter what." (What ever happened to the sequential signs along the road that advertised Burns-Shave in doggerel? The shaving cream is gone, the signs are gone, and the roads have been replaced by interstates highways, freeways, whatever.)

Back to more obvious mistakes. "Only by building a floating majority," I wrote with political prescience, could the president "build the momentum . . . to overcome *the bête noir*, gridlock." To which Igor Sezenko, Dunbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine History and Literature Emeritus at Harvard, responded, "Keep an eye on your proofreader."

This had me scratching my head until an "Oh, no!" came in from Evangelie Bruce of Washington with "How could you make the *bête masculine*?" The black beast is *la bête noire* (Proofreaders expecting arcane wordplay in my copy occasionally say to themselves, "This is so obviously wrong that it must be one of his verbal stunts and I'd better leave it as is so nobody can accuse me of not getting the joke.")

I'm good at history, though. In compiling *Books*, Yefim's relentless pressure on a defiant parliament to admit its error erode the credibility of their manhood. But in a doubt-defying feat of clay, let me rid my conscience of the most egregious of my last year's language gaffes in both my language columns and my political essays, so as to start the year with a clean slate. (*Thereby* to be better than *so as to*, but for some reason *thereby* has acquired an overly formal connotation, like *albeit*.)

Wrongly executed. "When Charles I walked out one of the oversized windows," corrected Tony Brunton of Bay Shore, New York, "onto a hastily erected walkway and platform—which overlooked Whitehall—it was to lose his head rather than hang." Royalty gets decapitated, not hanged.

For a reason having only to do with fumbling fingers, I predicted a great future for "PC-ROM" recently. "For an upgrade of your personal personal computer savvy," instructs Andy Glass, Washington Bureau chief and columnist for Cox newspapers, "note that PC-ROM is an acronym for 'Personal Computer Read-Only Memory.' Most often, these chips are cited as the machine's BIOS, which stands for 'Basic Input-Output System.' The BIOS is the gizmo that sets things up when you hit the 'On' switch."

"Since PC-ROM has been around for more than a decade, coos in computerdom," Glass continues in his snazzy UltraShadow font, "I am sure CD-ROM is what you really had in mind when you referred to 'the new world of PC-ROM' in noting the growing interest in multimedia systems. CD-ROM stands for 'Compact Disk Read-Only Memory.'

Yeah, and "read only" means you can't write to the disk, at least not this week. I am correcting this error lest my words be immortalized on CD-ROM and confuse some android reading it in the future.

In a piece on *factoids*, bits of conjecture or misinformation masquerading as facts, I described Spock as the infinite-splitting television series "Star Trek" as an "android, an automaton who was similar to a human but not the same. This was by way of giving the word on *id*, a combining form to denote spurious sameness."

The Star Trek character you cited, as Spock's fans know, wrote Bruce Goldman of Richmond, "is half human and half Vulcan—but all natural"—making him a *humanoid*, something like but not quite a human. Commander Data, from *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, is an android. So when you wrote, "An android is very like a human being but is an automaton," you published an *analogoid*—something that is like but not quite a real *analog*."

Actually, in my filed copy I referred to "Dr. Spock" when I meant "Mr. Spock," which would have drawn angry letters from former children accustomed to feeding on demand. A proofreader was gassy enough to boldly go where no proofreader had ever gone before, saving me on the homophone before the mistake could hit print; he assumed I knew this—no parent or couch potato could possibly confuse Dr. Spock with Spock—but was *stilly* using him.

New York Times Service

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

Appears on Page 9

WEATHER

Europe

Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by Accu-Weather.



North America

Europe

A storm of wind-blown snows, coastal rains and gales will lash Virginia, the Carolinas, and the Northeast. There will be limited dry weather as well. Italy will be cool, maybe with a few showers. The north will be cold and snowy. In Jakarta and Singapore, it may be heavy rain Thursday. Parts of Scandinavia will be cold with some Great Lake snows.

Middle East

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